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*28<sup>th</sup> Nov 1874*  
MEMOIR

OF THE

CODUGU SURVEY.

COMMONLY WRITTEN

KOORG.

PART II.

BY

LIEUTENANT CONNOR,  
SURVEYOR.

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TO THE

## CODUGU MEMOIR

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## PART II.

### INTRODUCTION.

Miscellaneous observations. Aware that the information contained in this portion of the Memoir, will be found deficient in many of those particulars of which an illustration would be expected, and anxious to obviate the inferences that may be drawn from such a circumstance, I hasten to offer something in explanation.

From the character of the Government it will be seen, that a spirit of jealousy (not the less violent because unfounded) forms one of the most striking features of its policy, and that all strangers, particularly Europeans, are viewed with boundless suspicion; such being the predominant sentiments, it will naturally be believed, that the duties upon which I was engaged, rendered me obnoxious to no ordinary share of this feeling.

A few remarks on the conduct observed generally towards the establishment will illustrate this observation, and may throw some incidental lights on the character and temper of the authorities here. From the moment of my arrival in the country I was attended by one of the principal Officers of Government, and two more of inferior authority; a Shanbogue or native writer, formed the fourth member of the retinue, by which I was invariably encompassed, under the plausible pretext of lending their assistance; but a short time however had elapsed, before I learnt the nature of their office, which was literally as a guard, more effectually to prevent any communication with the inhabitants, and so punctually did they perform

this duty, that in no single instance do I recollect ever having conversed with a native of the country except in their presence, or having gone either on business or for recreation a hundred yards without their attendance; indeed if I left my place of residence but a moment, two of them instantly followed me, for it is a curious circumstance that on no occasion did they come singly, as if it was feared one could not be trusted, or that a witness was required to observe what occurred. Thus situated my intercourse with the inhabitants was extremely limited, if not virtually cut off; as it must have been through the medium of these attendants, and any information acquired from such a source, could not be received but with important abatements, if at all credited.

This restraint or rather imprisonment, (for denominating it so is no abuse of the term) in which I was held by the contemptible policy and illiberal suspicion of the Chief of this principality, was extended even to my servants,\* and equally strictly observed with regard to the Assistant Surveyors, who were kept in the same species of durance. To such an extreme was this feeling of suspicion carried, that I have the best reason for believing, that a minutely detailed account of each day's transaction, was regularly forwarded to Muddukerray; and from various circumstances I feel similar confidence in the belief, that every question asked, and every expression used, was as carefully registered and as punctually communicated.

Though disagreeable if not disgusting, to be under the operation of a surveillance betraying so total a want of confidence, I readily admit that it was accompanied by every possible attention. The precautions of suspicion were attempted to be concealed under the veil of politeness, and if personal respect could compensate, not only for the entire absence of candour and ingenuousness, but for the settled deceit and evasion which was ever substituted for them, there would not be the slightest grounds for now using the language of complaint.

These feelings of distrust operated however only in preventing any

\* If any of them went out he was invariably accompanied by a Codugu who kept a short distance from him to observe that he did not enter into conversation with any of the inhabitants.

intercourse with the people,\* as a free and ready access was given to all parts of the country, so that the Geographical portion of the work suffered no impediment, but every thing was left to be searched for, nothing however trifling was voluntarily communicated; if it was considered necessary to go from one point to another, the guides invariably took the Surveyors some circuitous route, keeping as much as possible in the course that had been previously traversed, avoiding as far as was practicable, all roads and villages with which he was not before acquainted, under the hope they might pass unnoticed. In fine, cunning in all its modifications was constantly exerted to mislead, although in every instance attended by the strongest professions of zeal to forward the undertaking, the wish to deceive in this particular, once manifested, could and has been defeated by the increased circumspection it necessarily called for, but in other instances their views of concealment could not be so easily counteracted.

Time it was to be hoped would have produced a greater share of confidence and have removed the restrictions which ignorance had imposed; it, however, in opposition to all reasonable expectations rather increased them, and a watchful vigilance which nothing could justify and which the conduct of the establishment in no measure warranted, was observed to the last moment.

Numerous particulars in illustration to the foregoing observations could be adduced, but it will not be necessary to pursue the subject any further into detail, sufficient has been said to shew that circumstanced in the manner just related, literally no information could be learned any further than the eye could reach; many objects of curious enquiry doubtless yet remain to repay a more successful research, but my situation was not one that inspired much confidence as to the purity of the sources from which intelligence was to be acquired, in fact those by whom I was surrounded had but one object in view, which was deception, and it is needless to say they only paid such a regard to truth as was not inconsistent with this pre-

\* All classes were prohibited from coming near or speaking to any of the Establishment. I have been told and cannot doubt the assurance that the loss of the nose or ear was threatened as a punishment for the infraction of this mandate, but the penalty secured its observances.

vailing motive. They hesitated not at the grossest falsehoods nor does His Highnesses' system of morality seem to impose any obligations in this particular, or place him above a charge of a similar nature, as I found both him and his servants, equally devoid of scruples on this essential point. In attempting to learn something from the latter every question was received with uneasiness, although all objects that could reasonably have called up this feeling were studiously avoided; perceiving that this distrust could not be conquered, and that further enquiries might have an injurious effect, it seemed desirable to abandon the matter, in consequence all interrogations have latterly been avoided. With no authority to demand their aid in this particular, it would have been imprudent to have insisted on, where there was no power to enforce, a different line of conduct.

The above account though it may be conceived romantic and strange, will not be questionable, but as failure is said to be fertile in excuses, it may be considered that too much stress has been laid on the difficulties that opposed themselves; when however it is recollected they were a subject of extreme vexation from the commencement to the conclusion of the Survey, it will be deemed excusable. Much will be attributable to want of skill or discrimination, but there will yet remain, I trust sufficient reasons to secure a share of indulgence for inaccuracies or errors; I am not insensible to the possibility of either, but personal observation could not supply the deficiency. The remarks made on the country, its productions, inhabitants &c., are necessarily drawn from this source, and such information as the people of Mysore residing immediately on the boundary were capable of furnishing. I am also much indebted to Doctor Ingledew of the Mysore Residency, whose local knowledge gave authenticity to his communications. A short memorandum by the late Colonel Mahony sometime Resident in Codugu contained some useful observations. I cannot here omit expressing my acknowledgments for the support which Mr. Cole in every instance honored me with.

Where so little could be learned from the people, it is hazardous to say much, but nothing has received a colouring not warranted by facts, and borne out by appearances; the information has been drawn from scanty materials, and it is probable may fall below expectation, but circumstances will at least secure me from the suspicion

of indifference or the imputation of neglect. I am willing however to retain the hope that the outline which is here traced will convey some general idea of the state and resources of this little principality; should the attempt be unsuccessful, the failure must be attributed to the execution.

The temper with which the native authorities viewed the undertaking, rendered some delicacy necessary to be observed towards them, and although the system of subterfuge and evasion was sufficient to have disturbed the equanimity of the most enduring, every possible forbearance was observed, and whatever personal indignation might have arisen at such groundless suspicion and endless falsehoods, it was sacrificed to considerations of duty, and the general conduct of every member of the Establishment was correct and satisfactory. An apology will not be necessary for these remarks, no credit can be claimed for observing an ordinary share of prudence, no merit due for acting with circumspection and conciliation, to ensure a favorable result.



## MEMOIR OF THE

Date.	THERMOMETER.						Places of Observation.	REMARKS.
	Hours of observation.							
	A. M. 6	8	P. M. 1		6	10		
1st	69	0	0	0	0	0	} Muddukayray...  Bullamoory... Chaylawara. ...	{ The general character of the weather previous to this has been threatening sky obscured with thick clouds. The last 5 days in October were marked by incessant and severe rains which continued with but little intermission till the 4th November. Strong southerly wind. Southerly wind, clear sky. Light breezes, sky clear. Immediately after sunset the dew begins to fall and continues incredibly heavy till sun-rise. Clear day, mornings excessively hazy and the Sun scarcely visible till 9 o'clock. Clear, Light wind, dew excessive 10 o'clock at Night the Thermometer stood at 56. A clear and elastic atmosphere. Night excessively dewy, and the average temperature 55. This village is nearly on the summits of the Ghats. Sky covered with white clouds, light breezes. Most part of this day exceedingly gloomy, occasional rain, clouds passing quick from the East. Sharp winds. Drizzling Rain during the whole of the day. Cloudy and threatening from the Eastward, average temperature during the night 61.
2nd	0	68	69	0	68	0		
3rd	0	65	0	68	0	0		
4th	0	65	0	67	0	0		
5th	0	66	83	0	0	0		
6th	0	66	0	66	0	0		
7th	0	69	75	63	63	0	Do.	
8th	0	61	0	65	65	0	Do.	
9th	0	61	74	61	61	0	Do.	
10th	0	61	76	61	61	0	Do.	
11th	0	63	72	0	0	0	Do.	
12th	0	65	70	60	60	0	Veerjenderpett	
13th	0	67	70	68	68	0	Do.	
14th	0	67	73	67	67	0	Do.	

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15th	0	69	75	67	0	Do. ...	Showery during the day, rained with excessive violence all the evening, light wind.
16th	0	68	80	69	0	Hullaguttoor ...	Atmosphere excessively humid, rained violently during the Evening, this was not experienced in the plains.
17th	0	67	78	69	0	Belikaysodoloor ...	The early part of this day threatening, a clouded sky, and air loaded with vapours during the whole of it.
18th	0	69	85½	68½	0	Do. ...	Clear atmosphere.
19th	0	68	85	66½	0	Do. ...	Cloudy and gloomy in the early part of the day, average temperature of the night 62, dew excessive.
20th	0	68	86	67½	62	Do. ...	A dense and clouded sky particularly towards the East.
21st	0	66	86½	71	0	Do. ...	Early part of the day threatening, sky covered with dark clouds passing quick from the Eastward.
22nd	0	66½	79	69	0	Do. ...	Morning sky covered with fleecy clouds. Evening gloomy with lightning and Rain.
23rd	0	65	86	77½	0	Do. ...	Latter part of it fine, wind light, threatened little in the morning, in the Evening dew moderate, excessive towards the morning.
24th	0	62	80	67	57	Hahloor (Rained.)	Sky covered with light fleecy clouds, night heavy dews, sharp breezes throughout the day.
25th	55	63	79	66	62	Do. do.	Occasionally cloudy, night heavy dew. S. E. breeze strong during the day.
26th	57	65	86	65	58	Hannagood (Mysore)	Pure atmosphere, winds as yesterday.
27th	58	65½	84	72	66	Do. do.	Severe S. E. wind blowing the whole of the day with considerable force, sky cloudy and obscured, moderate dew.
28th	61	65½	83	71	68	Do. do.	The wind continues from the same quarter with equal violence. Sky cloudy. Slight dew during the night.
29th	65	70	75	69	62	Seedapoor do.	Sky obscured all the day, wind something abated.
30th	0	74	80	70	57	Do. do.	Cloudy light wind, excessive dew during the night.



# DECEMBER 1816.

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MEMOIR OF THE

CODUGU SURVEY.

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Date.	THERMOMETER.				Places of Observation.	REMARKS.	
	Hours of observation.						
	A. M. 6	8	P. M. 1	10			
1st	57	68	84½	61	Seedspoor. (Mysore)	Clear and serene sky	Comparatively light winds have been experienced during this period the extremes of heat and cold it will be perceived were considerable. The Dew during the nights has been constant and excessively heavy, a change in the atmosphere has taken place since the period of the new moon, the immediate change of it is remarked by the Inhabitants as unhealthy particularly a few days subsequent to it.
2nd	47½	54	82	61	Kaurmaud. Ookadu.	Do. do.	
3rd	44½	52	85	63	Do. ...	Covered with light fleecy clouds	
4th	50	57	90	70	Do. ...	Clear and serene sky	
5th	57	61	90	63	Koorchy ...	Clear	
6th	53	59	85	58	Do. ...	Clear	
7th	57	61	0	60	Do. ...	Exceedingly strong Eastern winds, sky cloudy	
8th	60	63	85	59	Do. ...	Clear sky, light winds	
9th	0	60	82½	63	Do. ...	Sky obscured clouds passing with a quick motion from the east	
10th	0	64	83	64	Kootay ...	Clear and serene, gentle breezes	
11th	0	65	77	68	Kiggutt Naad Cutcherric	Gloomy and cloudy, strong easterly winds	

12th	0	70	75	70	67	Do.	Cloudy, wind excessively violent during the whole of the day last night.
13th	0	69	72	69	65	Verajenderpett	Gloomy and cloudy, winds from the same direction and equally
14th	0	65	77	67	63	Muddukayray	poisterous, the dew for these last few nights moderate.
15th	0	62	76	72	62	Do.	Cloudy.
16th	0	63	78	69½	65	Do.	Rather obscured.
17th	60	68	80	65	62	Do.	Clear and serene sky, gentle winds, fall of dew considerably decreased.
18th	58	61	77	61½	58	Do.	Clear sky, dew moderate
19th	58	62	76	60	56½	Do.	The temperature of this place immediately now is quite agreeable and quite a European climate 78°
20th	47½	63½	76	58½	53	Do.	may be considered the average temperature of the day, and this is considerably
21st	56	63½	76½	59	53	Do.	moderated by constant gentle winds, generally from the east; the sky is invariably clear, and the dew not so great as in the more woody parts of the country.
22nd	53	61	76	59	55	Do.	
23rd	54	59	79	57	51	Do.	
24th	42	43	84	60	52	Hoodoowadda	Clear light winds at 3 o'clock P. M. The thermometer 85° dew excessive last night, extremes of heat and cold this day very great being 45° sky clear.
25th	42	48	91	57	50	Do.	Light winds, dew excessive, extremes of heat and cold this day very great being 45° sky clear.
26th	45	54	86	57	50	Nalladdy	Heavy dew which dont clear up till nearly 10 o'clock, clear sky, light wind.
27th	49	59	87	60	49½	Do.	Clear, light winds
28th	46	49	86	58	54	Do.	Do. do.
29th	51	56	86	61	51½	Do.	Clear sky light wind
30th	50	54	0	52	46	Do.	These three days have varied but in few particulars from the two preceding ones, ascending the ghats the temperature decreases, and on the top of the Todmandamle is exactly 20° less than that at Nalladdy.
31st	42	52	87	56	48	Do.	Cloudless, calm

JANUARY 1817.

Date.	THERMOMETER.					Places of Observation.	REMARKS.
	Hours of Observation.						
	A. M. 6	8	P. M. 1	6	10		
1st	44	59	84	56	46	Nalladdy	... ... Calm cloudless sky, severe dew at night. At 3 o'clock both these days the Thermometer stood at 89° making the difference of temperature between 6 o'clock A. M. and noon-day 45°
2nd	40½	50	86	57½	49	Do. ...	... Do.
3rd	47	62	87	55	46	Do. ...	... Do.
4th	43	52	89	55	49	Do. ...	... Light wind and severe sky, dew moderate.
5th	50	62	90	60	47	Do. ...	... Do.
6th	44	62	81	57	46½	Baghamundla	... Sky obscured with clouds, brisk wind during the day, in the night excessive heavy dew.
7th	38½	62	81	53	44	Do.	... Cloudy, dews excessive, strong easterly winds.
8th	50	62	89	53	43	Do.	... Sky covered with dense clouds, the wind violent in the mornings but gentle towards the evening.
9th	41	60	79	57	43	Do.	... Heavy dews, sky cloudy, strong easterly wind.
10th	50	71	83	63	46	Do.	... Clear sky, dew more moderate, light breezes.
11th	50	0	96	72	67	Thorekahna	{ Scene sky light dews 11 A. M. 93° 12 o'clock 94° 2 P. M. 93° 8 P. M. 95°. Thorekahna is situated immediately at the foot of the ghaut.

12th	66	75	93	78	71	Soolceay	Calm, serene sky, dew scarcely perceptible.
13th	66	0	96½	79	67½	Moyallau.	Cloudless, perfect calm 10 A. M. 99°, 11 A. M. 96°, 5 P. M. 92°.
14th	63	87	94	76	68	Bittumpaady	Ditto. strong easterly winds, no dew 10 A. M. 87°, 11 A. M. 89°, 2 P. M. 93°.
15th	0	78	95	74	63	Do.	Ditto. no dew 9 A. M. 87°, 10 A. M. 90°, 2 P. M. 96° 3 P. M. 91, calm.
16th	57	0	95	71	63	Do.	Ditto. extremely calm 2 P. M. 93°.
17th	56	0	91	75	63	Do.	Ditto. no dew or wind 3 P. M. 91°.
18th	56	0	98	75	64	Moyallau	Clear and serene, perfectly clear 10 A. M. 91°, 2 P. M. 102°.
19th	55	75	98	0	0	Soolceay	Cloudless sky, calm, 10 A. M. 91°, 11 A. M. 96, 2 and 3 P. M. 100°.
20th	54	74	98	71	54	Dawaychullu	Clear and serene, perfectly calm.
21st	64	0	79	67	62	Kuddunkull	Ditto, calm.
22nd	56	57	80	64	60	Muddukayray	Clear 3 in the morning 59°, on ascending the top of the ghaut the contrast of climate is considerable a strong Easterly cold wind succeeds to the suffocating air of Soolceay.
23rd	52	67	82	0	56	Do.	Clear and serene sky.
24th	55	66	87	62½	54	Do.	Heavy dews, strong easterly wind, 10 A. M. 75° 2 P. M. 84°.
25th	54	67	84	67	61	Do.	Ditto do.
26th	55	0	82	64	57	Do.	Light breezes, clear sky dew more moderate, 10 A. M. 81°.
27th	45	76	79	61	55	Do.	Clear sky light winds, 10 A. M. 76° 3 P. M. 81°.
28th	54	71	81	62	60	Do.	Cloudless, light dew, strong easterly winds 10 A. M. 79°.
29th	49	74	81	64	58	Do.	Clear and serene sky, light breezes.
30th	46	75	81	0	0	Do.	Cloudless, gentle winds, no dew, an agreeable elastic atmosphere.
31st	47	73	84	66	53	Do.	Ditto slight wind and dew.
						Do.	Cloudy, strong easterly wind, dew still continues but not very heavy.

These observations were taken in the Districts below the Ghauts. The temperature of these Districts does not present a less contrast than their atmosphere which wants that elasticity experienced above the Ghauts.

The climate during most of the month in the upper Country was not oppressively hot indeed rarely ever more so than could be desired the dew becomes gradually but slowly less severe and the cold during the night decreases in nearly a similar proportion it is still extremely severe and disagreeable.



MARCH 1817.

Date.	THERMOMETER.				Places of Observation.	REMARKS.	
	Hours of Observation.						
	A. M. 6	8	P. M. 1	6 10			
1st	54	70	82	71	62	Muddukayray. ...	Sky cloudy, slight dew during the night.
2nd	64	73	84	68	65	Do. ...	{ Day gloomy and obscured with clouds, rained for an hour during the Evening.
3rd	59	79	84	69½	65	Do. ...	Clear and serene sky, light winds from the westward.
4th	55	82	85	68½	62	Do. ...	Occasionally cloudy and clear westerly winds.
5th	55	73	88	68	67	Do. ...	Gloomy and cloudy all day, atmosphere loaded with vapours.
6th	64	68	82	69½	65	Do. ...	Light winds, sky obscured with clouds, rained last night for about three hours with some severity.
7th	59	76	86	69½	64	Do. ...	Early part of the day clear and serene gentle winds, threatening in the evening, from the west thunder.
8th	55	74	82	70	64	Do. ...	This day similar in every particular to the preceding one.
9th	56	81	76½	69	68	Do. ...	Cloudy and gloomy all day, threatening rain in the evening.
10th	56	81	77	68	67	Do. ...	Cloudy, considerable dew last night, light winds, rained from 1 to 3 o'clock this day, it came from the Westwards.
11th	58	72	88	67	65	Do. ...	Do. all day light winds, rained heavily from 2 to 3 o'clock.
12th	61	75	87	70	68	Do. ...	{ Early part of the day clear and serene. Dew during the night towards the afternoon strong. Westerly winds, and heavy rain from 4 to 5 P. M. from that quarter.
13th	55	80½	81	68	62	Do. ...	{ Sky covered with white fleecy clouds dew in the night time light westerly winds during the day.

14th	58	81	80½	65	Do.	Light winds during the day, clear blue sky.
15th	56	76	77	67	Do.	Gloomy and cloudy, threatened rain, all day sharp westerly winds.
16th	64	69	81½	65	Do.	Cloudy and gloomy, light showers in the morning, severe rain from 1 to 4 o'clock.
17th	56	75	78	66	Do.	Sky covered with light fleecy clouds during the early part of the day after noon gloomy, rained for 3 hours during it, a heavy dew fell during the night.
18th	61	81	89	64	Do.	Do clear, the early part of the day, threatened rain in the evening from the westward.
19th	60	69	85	65½	Kaydaymoolie	Kather clouds during the day, strong westerly winds accompanied by some thunder and threatening rain towards the evening.
20th	61	71	93	68	Do.	Clear and serene sky during the greater part of the day, strong westerly winds, slight rain in the evening.
21st	66	63	91½	69	Do.	Clear, excessive dew during the night and threatening rain in the evening the two previous days excessive thick fog in the morning did not clear up till 9 A. M.
22nd	66	70	86	68	Do.	Do. for some part of the day, strong westerly winds, heavy rain from 2 to 3 o'clock.
23rd	64	78	84	66	Do.	Clear sky most of the day. Heavy dew in the night, slight rain from 1 to 2 P. M. Heavy fogs in the morning.
24th	64	69	87	66	Do.	Sky covered with white fleecy clouds, strong westerly wind during the day thick fogs in the morning some dew during the night.
25th	60	75	100	78	Kayraytay Ookudu	Do. clear and serene, calm, slight dews towards morning. This village is situated below the giants heavy hill shower here.
26th	71½	75	85	68	Veerjenderpett	Clear in the early part of the day, strong westerly winds thunder and threatened rain towards the evening from the westward.
27th	61½	67	99	69	Do.	Cloudless, heavy dew in the course of the night brisk westerly wind.
28th	65	75	85	69	Do.	Cloudy and gloomy most of the day rained from half past 8 till 5 P. M. from the west.
29th	67	73	92	69	Do.	Clear strong westerly winds, a hail shower of some continuance.
30th	62	69	89	66	Do.	Generally clear dew towards the morning rained, most of the night.
31st	67	81	85	63	Burmay	Cloudy and obscured, light winds, rained this evening from 5 to 7 o'clock, from 10 A. M. to 12 P. M.

APRIL 1817.

## MEMOIR OF THE

THERMOMETER.					Places of Observation.	REMARKS.	
Hours of Observation.							
A. M.	8	P. M.	6	10			
1st	64	83	87	0	71	Birrunany.	Clear, westerly winds from 10 A. M. to 12., 89°.
2nd	0	72	70	71	85	Veerajenderpett.	Cloudy, light-winds westerly, rained from 10 A. M. to 1 and th. rained all day.
3rd	64	71	91½	64½	64	Do.	Clear during the early part of the day, light winds rained from the westward without intermission from 2 P. M. to 5 P. M.
4th	64	68½	89	63	65	Do.	Heavy dew in the morning, strong westerly winds, sky obscured, the latter part of the day rained from 8 to 5 P. M.
5th	64	71	94	63	66	Condangayray.	Clear the greater part of the day, dew in the morning, cloudy towards the evening from 1 P. M. to 3 P. M. 94°.
6th	64	73	83	70	65	Muddukayray.	Serene sky, light breezes. { The clouds collect towards the westward in the evening several hail showers have been experienced within the last five or six days.
7th	59	82	82	63	65	Do.	Clear, calm.
8th	59	76	78	71	63	Do.	Rather cloudy, light winds, continued thunder in the evening and rained along the tops of the ghauts.
9th	64	83	83	70½	68	Do.	Sky partially obscured, threatening rain towards the evening, much thunder.
10th	65	82½	81	70	67	Do.	Cloudy light winds, evening threatens rain.
11th	60	80	87	73	65	Do.	Day cloudy, extremely calm, and disagreeably close.
12th	65	81	80	68	66	Do.	Cloudy and gloomy, most of the day light westerly winds, from 2 to 3 P. M. a violent hail shower.
13th	63	79	91	70	66	Do.	Alternately cloudy and clear partial breeze.

## CODUGU SURVEY.

14th	67	80	78	68	68	Do.	Cloudy, westerly winds, a continued series of light showers during the day.
15th	64	84	85	71	68	Do.	Sky obscured, gentle westerly winds, close.
16th	58	84	76	71½	68	Do.	Cloudy and gloomy all day, thunder and threatening rain in the evening.
17th	58	86	81½	72	68½	Do.	Cloudy, light westerly winds.
18th	58½	83½	89	73	68	Do.	Alternately cloudy and clear, this day, has been excessively close, thunder and threatening rain in the evening from 2 to 5 P. M. 89°.
19th	56	76½	90	70	67	Do.	Clear and serene, light westerly winds.
20th	61	63	82	68	66	Do.	Occasionally cloudy, rained a little in the course of the day.
21st	61	90	79	66	63	Do.	Clear in the early part of the day, much thunder and rained with excessive severity from 4 to 6 P. M.
22nd	64	86	75	69	68	Do.	Cloudy and gloomy, threatening all day, rained slightly from 9 to 10 A. M.
23rd	59	86	79	72	64	Do.	Gloomy, excessively hot during the early part of the day, it being from 8 A. M. till 12. 88°, rained with occasional intermission from 1 to 6 P. M.
24th	59	82	82	70	67	Do.	Clear light, westerly winds, dew becomes considerably more moderate.
25th	61	82	81	70	67	Do.	Clear and serene, the early part of the day westerly winds, thunder and slight rain during the evening.
26th	60	82	84	72	68	Do.	Clear, light westerly winds, evening a little threatening.
27th	70	84	80	74	72	Do.	Cloudy, rained from 2 to 3 P. M. excessive thunder in the evening.
28th	72	84	85	72	71	Do.	Gloomy all day, thunder and threatening rain in the evening.
29th	66	84	83	72	70	Do.	Morning clear, latter part of the day excessively gloomy, westerly winds, thunder, rained a little in the course of the day and the evening.
30th	67	85	75	70	69	Do.	Gloomy, sun, obscured all day, rained at intervals during the course of it.

MAY 1817.

Date.	THERMOMETER.					Places of Observation.	REMARKS.
	Hours of Observation.						
	A. M. 6	8	P. M. 1	6	10		
1st	66	85	75	71	62	Muddukayray.	Gloomy all day, slight shower in the course of it, excessive rain during the evening.
2nd	63	83	76	71	62	Do.	Do. much thunder and threatening rain in the evening.
3rd	62	82	75	69	67	Do.	Clouded sky, a little rain fell in the course of the day.
4th	63	73	82	69	68	Do.	Cloudy and obscured, excessive heavy dew towards morning.
5th	58	82	82	75	73	Do.	Early part of the day clear, obscured towards the close of it, and excessive rain from 6 to 8 P. M.
6th	63	73	77	65	64	Do.	Cloudy, rained hard from 1 to 2 P. M. also in the afternoon from 6 to 7 P. M.
7th	58	76	81	69	67	Do.	Do. light showers throughout the day
8th	64	73	69	66	60	Do.	Gloomy, all day excessive rain occasionally accompanied by hail from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M.
9th	64	74	85	71	67	Do.	Sky obscured with clouds, light rain for a very short time during the day.
10th	65	75	77	70	68	Do.	Much thunder and gloomy, weather continues very threatening.
11th	64	79	79	69	67	Do.	Cloudy, slight rain in the early part of the day, extremely violent from 7 to 8 o'clock.

12th	66	74½	81½	68	68	Do.	Do. threatening as yesterday
13th	65	77	81	71	68	Do.	Sky comparatively clear and serene, much thunder in the course of the day.
14th	67	72	73	66	64	Do.	Cloudy, rained with excessive violence from 2 till 6 P. M.
15th	63	70	77	66	67	Do.	Gloomy and cloudy, rained most of the day.
16th	64	71	75	69	64	Do.	Cloudless light agreeable winds.
17th	64	76	79	69	66	Do.	Comparatively clear, light breezes.
18th	65	71	75	69	65	Do.	The early part of the day clear, but cloudy and drizzling rain from 4 to 6.
19th	65	67	75	68	65	Do.	Cloudy, drizzling rain some part of the day.
20th	62	71	79	66	60	Do.	Sky obscured, rained from 6 to 10 P. M. humid atmosphere.
21st	63	70	79	68	67	Do.	Cloudy all day, severe rain from 2 to 3 P. M.
22nd	63	72	74	65	65	Do.	Gloomy, severe rain towards the middle of the day.
23rd	63	72	79	66	65	Do.	Clear and serene most of the day, sky over-cast towards the evening.
24th	67	73	89	70	65	Do.	Early part of the day fine, latter part gloomy, and severe rain from 3 to 5.
25th	65	71	82	71½	68½	Do.	Comparatively clear during the early part of the day, slight rain towards the evening.
26th	62	75	81½	71½	70	Do.	Clear most of the day, a severe storm accompanied by violent rain from 8 to 10 P. M.
27th	63	75	75½	69	67	Do.	Cloudy and gloomy, light winds, threatening.
28th	64	70	79½	70	65	Do.	Clear during most of the day, but rained with excessive severity during whole of the night.
29th	63	74	77	76	69	Do.	Cloudy, slight rain during the day.
30th	67	72	78	76	66	Do.	Sky covered with dense clouds, atmosphere humid, and has been so for the whole of the month, rained during the night.

# MEMOIR

## OF THE

### CODUGU SURVEY.

#### PART II.

A general sketch of the physical structure, geography, and superficies of this Territory having already been given, no further illustration on these points will now be necessary. Codugu is not so familiarly known as its contiguity requires, or at least may render it desirable, and there are some circumstances with regard to this Alpine tract, arising more from a peculiarity of features than either its magnitude or value, that may justify a few comments in addition to those, that have already been offered.

The whole of the possessions of this state are known under the designation of Codugu Male, a name in the first instance, only applicable to the more mountainous parts comprized in Codugu proper; the meaning of this denomination is now uncertain or forgotten, a probable etymology would give it as "country \* of the million of Hills" and its surface would certainly favor the derivation.†

Enough has been said of the aspect of Codugu, to shew that its general character exhibits an endless labyrinth of hills swelling into mountains, and

\* Codye is I believe Malleallum for a crore, Male is a hill.

† It is said to have been known anciently under the name of Tankona (*Vide Buchanan's Mysore 2nd Vol. page 304*) The natives are not aware of this denomination.

sometimes breaking into precipices; approaching the west, the valleys which these wilds enclose, become more steep, and its elevations bolder. The whole of this rugged tract is shaded by interminable woods, giving it all the wildness of an American forest. It seems formed for a separate state, presenting when contrasted with the champaign country on its Eastern borders, nearly as remarkable a division in natural, as the mountaineers inhabiting it do in moral geography.

The woods of Codugu deserve a moment's remark, they are infinitely superior in point of extent, density, age, and stature to those of Bulum and Wynaad: indeed it may be said that every species of vegetation attains a degree of luxuriance if not rankness, quite foreign in the neighbouring countries; both flowers and blossoms have a brilliancy and variety unknown in the plains, and many of the wild plants possess a share of aromatic qualities, both as to odour and flavor. Amongst the numerous description of Gum-trees, the Gamboge is said to be found. The Raspberry, and Blackberry are seen in abundance amongst the hills. The foliage of these vast forests is extremely exuberant, and but slightly deciduous, refreshed by constant dews, it retains perennially the bright tints of vegetation. With such a soil, and in the climate of the more elevated parts, there is every reason to suppose, that the vegetable productions of more frigid regions could be successfully naturalized.\*

The elevated chain of ghauts, cannot fail by their great height and solitary grandeur, to affect the observer who looks down from this vast Apennine on the fertile province of Malabar spread beneath him, the landscape however is not generally interesting, it has more of a savage wildness than anything of a picturesque nature, every prospect is made up of hills and woods, but the sylvan scenery of this Alpine tract,

\* An oak planted at Muddukayray in one of the Rajah's gardens though no particular care has been taken of it, is thriving most luxuriantly. The fertility of the soil has been before mentioned, the medium of sixty three ears of rice taken from different villages in various districts, gives 114 grains as the average amount in each year, this only applies to the upper country.



though embellished by the lively green of perpetual verdure, receives no variety from art, nothing interposes to diversify its sameness, the inhabited parts are enched in the forest, or buried amongst clustering hills, the prospect wants the relief of contrast, and the eye is fatigued with the uniform wildness that reigns.

Climate.

The accompanying Meteorological Table will enable some idea to be formed of the general temperature throughout this country. The observations (in making which nothing was neglected that could ensure their accuracy) have been necessarily taken at different places, some general conclusions however may be drawn from the table now presented. The situation more than the extent of this principality, necessarily includes a variety of temperature, presenting simultaneously that of different climates.

Of the upper country.

The Northern parts of the upper country, in which the hills are more elevated and partially open, enjoy moderate temperature, and where the circulation is not impeded by woods a clear and tenuous air; along the greater part of the Eastern boundary, which is comparatively flat and one immense tract of forest, the climate is by no means so favorable, alternately damp and hot, drenched by dews or parched by an ardent sun, the vapours it exhales remaining for a considerable time before they are dissipated, furnish a cause sufficiently active to render the atmosphere of those parts injurious. It may, however generally be said, that the upper country when its aspect is considered, enjoys a tolerable climate. The elevation of its soil and water, renders it comparatively mild, but except the higher parts rather humid. Its extensive forests retaining a perpetual verdure, assist in producing a moderate temperature, the diversities of its surface however necessarily cause varieties in it which are considerable and more remarkable in the vicinity of the larger hills. The table

Of Muddukayray. on which Muddukayray lies is subject for some months in the year to excessive high winds, and indeed is never quite free from them, but any slighter inconveniences they may cause, are fully compensated by the agreeable coolness, and delightfully pure and elastic air which they superinduce, and which

during October and the three succeeding months, recall the remembrance of an European atmosphere.

This immense ridge of hills so remarkable in the natural History of Hindustan, appears a barrier raised by nature to divide climates; while the districts above enjoy a comparatively mild temperature, those below the ghauts from November to May are burned up with a torrid heat; its violence is somewhat allayed in the more Western parts from their proximity to the sea, but Umr and Sooleay situated immediately at the foot of this range of mountains, where those refreshing breezes do not penetrate, experience all the violence of a scorching sun with nothing to moderate its fervor; this extreme heat promoting excessive evaporation, and loading the air with miasmata arising from putrid vegetable matter, renders these districts unhealthy.

Seasons.

The seasons throughout this territory are the same as those experienced on the coast of Malabar and Canara, they may be divided into two—the rainy and dry. The north-west monsoon sets in generally at the commencement of June, and the rain descends in torrents with but occasional periods of intermission, for the three succeeding months, during which time the country is buried in dark and gloomy vapours, frequently rendering the sun (it is said) for weeks invisible.

The south-east monsoon impelled by the prevailing winds, makes its appearance in October and November, it is however, by no means violent, it raining only at intervals during those months; from the commencement of December to the end of February no rain falls, and the sky is seldom obscured by clouds. The sun becomes more powerful during this period, and the verdure of the opener parts disappears for the three succeeding months, the heat gradually increases, tempered however by strong western winds, and a constant succession of showers. To conclude, the dry season may be considered as beginning in December and ending in May; and the remaining six months as the rainy one.

Estimation of climate as to salubrity. The climate in a general sense (with some local exceptions) cannot be considered as unfavorable to the human constitution; with a sky and temperature varying only with the different seasons, it possesses but in a slight degree (although bearing a great conformity in physical circumstances) those injurious qualities for which that of Soanda is remarkable. The hot months are considered the most insalubrious; the rains it would appear precipitating the noxious vapours; the monsoon is not at all injurious to the natives, but is represented as being uncongenial to foreigners residing in the country during the continuance of it. Indeed the climate is said to be extremely unfavorable (as a permanent residence) to the inhabitants of the plain, and nearly as much so to those belonging to Malabar and Canara; of the large number that were transplanted by Tippoo to replace the ancient inhabitants, and those who during the various wars were forcibly carried off from Mysore and fixed as cultivators in Codugu, no large number has survived the change, the extreme humidity caused by the rains with which the country is deluged for a part of the year, in the course of a few seasons generally affected the inhabitants of the open country who have been necessitated to settle here; and in like manner, the native of the Western coast unable to withstand the transition from the warmth of his own atmosphere to the cold and heavy dews which for some months, he must experience amongst these hills, never becomes completely inured to the change of temperature. The indigenous population (who are represented by their neighbours as possessing some of the amphibious qualities of their Buffaloes) feel, as has been observed, no bad effects from the violence and long continuance of the rain, or the cold and damp which succeed it.

Diseases endemical ones. The natives, like most Indians, conceive almost all their diseases to be caused by the waters\* they may happen to use, and much no doubt is ascribable to so powerful an agent whose purity is effected by the soil through which it passes. The endemic diseases of the country are

\* The account of a hot spring given in the accompanying note may not be unacceptable. I accidentally omitted to put it in its proper place. A hot spring situated close to the boundary (below the ghauts) and within a few feet of the Irruday Holay may merit some notice. A wild mythology that loves to assign every phenomena at all removed from the common course to the intervention of the gods thus narrates its origin:—

however few and not remarkable for their appearances or fatality, the principal one attributable to the influence of the climate is fever, produced rather it is probable, by exposure to a damp and impregnated atmosphere than arising from the effects of water; though the people do not appear remarkable for longevity, the usual term of life does not seem to be circumscribed by the effects of climate, and notwithstanding they are for a great part of the year exposed to the influence of the marshy exhalations arising from the fields on the borders of which they live, they may be called healthy, and subject only to

Rama and his brother Lutchman when about returning from their wars in Lanka, proposed performing some religious ceremony on the banks of the Pinnuuir Priajee where it passes Irruday, and previous ablution being required the Subta Risnie were commissioned to make the necessary preparation. These holy personages having purified the place by their prayers, fixed three golden vases, from which flowed a similar number of springs, on the spot now occupied by the reservoir. Rama, from some circumstances indistinctly stated, passed the holy fount unmindful of its purifying waters. The seven patriarchs, at whose command they had arisen, immediately removed the vases from mortal view, but the spot where they are buried is still indicated, by bubbles marking the spots from whence the springs issue; there are many other miraculous circumstances attending the history of this fountain which it will not be necessary here to relate.

Celebrated as Holy, the spring is visited by a large concourse of people particularly at the jutra or annual feast; to the splendour of its origin however and the reputed sanctity of its waters are attributed all the medicinal merits it may possess. Its fecundating qualities hold the first rank in the catalogue, and this fountain has the character of enjoying the happy prerogative of being a specific in cases requiring its prolificating aid. It also is represented (a virtue of less doubtful reputation) as serviceable in instances of fever, and cattle are said to be much benefited by drinking from its salutary stream.

The basin in which the spring discharges itself is about ten feet square and two deep, it leaves a slight whiteish incrustation on the edges of the reservoir, but is perfectly clear and quite devoid of that ochrous appearance and filmy surface that would indicate its being impregnated with Iron, the water has no taste peculiar to itself, but a sulphurous smell arises from it; this is more particularly remarkable in the earth at the bottom of the reservoir which in appearance and odour resembles wet gunpowder. Copper remaining in it a short time is discoloured and becomes black as if burnt.

The body of water at all times remains much the same, the spring however is remarked to be more forcible and of a higher temperature at the period of the new moon, it continues in this state but for a very short time.

The general heat (which is rather tepid than warm) throughout the year except in the above mentioned instance which I had not an opportunity of verifying, is invariably the same being wholly uninfluenced by the seasons in this particular; numerous small fishes live in its waters, it however destroys those of larger growth.

The Thermometer gives the following results as to its temperature, being the mean of measurements taken during three successive evenings. Atmosphere  $76\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ , River  $78\frac{3}{4}^{\circ}$ , Spring  $96\frac{3}{4}^{\circ}$ .

such infirmities as they would be liable to in any other country.\* Their doctrine of diseases is by no means complex, and their medical nostrums still less intricate; they consist in the application (principally topical) of a few simples of traditionary efficacy whose properties are not easily reducible to any distinct virtue, their ideas of specifics are confined and fanciful, nor do they seem to possess much knowledge regarding the medicinal powers of plants; before the introduction of the variolus infection they are represented as having suffered considerably from the ravages made by the Small Pox. The contagion seems however now to be pretty generally propagated amongst them.

Soil, Culture,  
Rural economy.

It is not intended here to retrace the particulars of the mode of husbandry prevalent amongst these hills, the observations previously made on this subject will have given some general idea of it, but the rural economy of the Inhabitants appears to admit of some few additional remarks, and perhaps may serve further to illustrate their situation.

Arable Lands,  
how occupied.

The arable lands in most instances are tolerably equally divided, there being no great *jagheerdars* or considerable Land-holders; whatever may have been the former state of Codugu in this particular † the troubles to which it had been exposed appears to have had the effect of an Agrarian law in equalizing this kind of property, the cultivated lands are occupied in severalty, but the wood and pasturage within the boundaries of the village (itself a little community) are the common possessions of those inhabiting it. The general extent of the farms in the upper country is not considerable, those of the smallest yielding a hundred and fifty or two hundred, the medium and common sized five hundred, and the largest from twelve to eighteen hundred or two thousand Bhutties.‡ Farms of this extent however are not

\* The squalid appearance of the Inhabitants of Umr and Sooleay would lead to a belief that they are an exception to the observation.

† Stones marking the limits of what at some remote period have been Jagheers and which shew them to have been extensive, are frequently met with.

‡ The extreme inconsistency of the information received as to the space occupied by a Bhutty, prevented its area from being ascertained; a Bhutty is 80 Pukka seers.

general and only in possession of the relations of the Rajah or Officers of his Government, to whose situations lands are always annexed.

The stock possessed by a farmer considered  
Stock of a Farmer rich, does not exceed seven or eight ploughs at most, those in moderate circumstances have from three to four, the latter may be the average number.

The defects which pervade their agriculture  
Cattle of an indifferent character. are it has been seen, equally remarkable with regard to their cattle; these are however rather numerous but of an indifferent breed, a wealthy cultivator will have twenty bullocks and three or four male buffaloes to assist tillage, also fifteen or twenty cows, and a few female buffaloes; the produce of the two latter when made into ghee (boiled butter) forms one of the few superfluities which the Ryot has to dispose of; this and the quantity of manure (an object of great importance) created by so large a herd is the motive for multiplying them to such an extent, as with the exception of ploughing, they are in no other way profitable to the owner or capable of assisting him in his rural occupations.

Servants Prædial  
and hired ones.

It will be seen that the chief agricultural labours are performed by slaves or prædial servants of whom some account will be given; the better class of ryots generally leave the operations of husbandry to them, merely superintending, as they are not often under the necessity of personally assisting. In Codugu proper the farmer seldom finds it necessary to hire servants. In Yailsowra however it is more common, a laborer receives here for a day's hire, working from seven o'clock till sunset, with some little period of intermission in the middle of the day, two hounes of rice, value about 3d; if engaged for the year he gets a blanket, two handkerchiefs, a coarse piece of cloth, two pagodas and a daily meal of dressed rice at his master's house; if paid entirely in money, he receives something more than six pagodas, a sum exceeding small when it is considered that more than two-thirds of it are required to support him; specie however is rarely given, rice being the general estimate of all labour, and frequently entering into the smaller details of commerce.

Farms in the districts below the ghauts.

The arrangements with regard to farms below the ghauts differ in some few particulars from those above; they are here generally on a large scale, though not more than can be profitably managed by one landlord—their slaves are more numerous, and on them almost exclusively devolves the business of culture. A wealthy ryot will employ from ten to fifteen ploughs;\* by far however the greater portion have only four or five, the quantity of stock kept by the cultivator here, is not so great as that common in the upper country. In Poottoor the means of breeding cattle are wanting, as the intense heats destroy for a great part of the year all herbage; Sooleeay shielded by its woods from the effects of the sun preserves its pasturage better and is enabled to rear a greater number.

Areca gardens by whom occupied, what produce.

The Areca gardens which constitute the most valuable kind of heritage in these districts† belong in almost every instances to Brahmins; some few from Higa,‡ but the greater part belonging to Tullava. In these plantations, are reared promiscuously sooparee, betel leaf, pepper and plantains; these articles produced in abundance, meet generally a ready sale; this species of husbandry is very advantageous, indeed the marks of an easy and lucrative cultivation are discernable. The estates of which the gardens form a part, have in most cases grain lands belonging to them; the Brahmins however, incapacitated in some measure by the nature of their religious prejudices from assisting in the more active duties of the cultivator, generally let out this part of their property; the modes of doing this are various:—on mortgage, for a compensation in money, or for a share of the crop; this latter is the most prevalent, the tenant always retaining the largest portion.

\* A Plough is capable of cultivating about 4 moodas or nearly five acres. The mooda is here the land measure and is equal to forty two seers.

† It has been mentioned, that neither the areca nor cocoanut palms will grow above the Ghauts, this is the more curious as the face of the country differs in nothing from Soanda and Bilgy, of which sooparee is at least a staple production: situation and soil apparently favorable for their culture abound, but all attempts made to rear them have been unsuccessful. These Palms sometimes grow, but they are slanted and produce no fruit.

‡ Generally known as the country near Gokuru. This caste are particularly skilful in the management of Gardens.

The grain lands. The grain lands are in most instances occupied by the Bunter caste, an industrious race who here form the largest class of proprietors; they generally cultivate with their own stock the whole of their estate, or at least only let a part of them out in cases of exigency.

Tenures.

The protracted vicissitudes to which this principality was subject during the reigns of Hyder and his son, the destructive inroads of the former and rigorous severity of the latter, which at one time nearly extirpated or carried away the whole of the inhabitants, appears with them in some measure to have destroyed the remembrance of private property in land, at least that undoubted right by which the proprietor alienates his estate without restriction. The late Rajah on again coming to authority divided all the arable lands amongst his adherents; many of the original owners no longer existed. On the appearance however of such claimants they were invariably reinstated in their patrimony, thus in some measure admitting a right in the soil; such a right however was understood as rather authorized by long custom, than originating from any claim of a more abstract nature.

In Codugu proper the proprietor cannot sell or devise his lands; they have nevertheless generally in a practical sense, every other characteristic of landed property retained by prescriptive right: they are transmitted to their descendants, looked on as an heritage that in justice could not be disputed, and equally valued as if held by a more legitimate tenure, possession rarely fluctuates, property of this nature is subject to no additional imposts, and the cultivator while he continues to pay his proportion of the annual assessment cannot, without a violation of established prejudices, be removed without his consent; such a tenure gives as much of the security of permanency to property as can be expected in a country where the will of the ruling chief is uncontrolled by Law; but the transfer of land by sale or conveyance, without which it cannot be considered as private property, is as far as I have been able to learn in no instance practiced, indeed property of this nature does not often change its possessors, and when it does, the sanction of the chief is requisite, in whom consequently must now exist the abstract right in the soil.

It appears probable that private property\* in land was at some

But the feelings attached to this kind of possession still exist.

distant period more perfectly recognized in Codugu than it now is, conquest no doubt has produced the change that may have taken place in this particular, but the attachment of the people to their fields evince, that the sentiments necessarily attendant on this species of possession have undergone no alteration; all escheats and unoccupied land belong in every instance to the Chief.

Aborigines hold their lands by a Feudal Tenure.

It has been seen that a military tenure is the condition on which the aborigines hold their lands, and the same tenures are generally annexed to such grants as may be made them exempt from almost all burthens, the species of service enjoined by this tenure, is consonant with the habits and character of the people, is considered as a mark of distinction by them, and the services required are rendered with alacrity and promptitude.

Tenures below the ghauts.

Those districts below the ghauts belonging to this Territory forming part of Canara, though under a different rule, have in common with it the same institutions. The state of landed property in that province, from which I am led to believe the lower districts differ in no material particulars, is too well known to require here many observations on it. The right in the soil is generally admitted to be entirely vested in the proprietor, (a system of occupancy conducive to every desirable improvement) the rare instances in which he absolutely sells his ground, his unwillingness to make even a temporary transfer of it, and the general solicitude with which landed property is universally regarded, sufficiently indicate the value placed on it.

Assessment

In nothing is this Principality more remarkable, than the extreme lightness of its land tax, which appears to have been imposed at a period of obsolete antiquity, and, unaffected by the various causes that have

\* Colonel Wilks speaking of this kind of possession says that it exists in its perfect form in the provinces of Canara, Malabar, and the principalities of Codugu and Travancore.

produced a change in this essential point in the surrounding countries, remained like its Inhabitants, unaltered amidst the revolutions they experienced.

Average of it

It has been observed that the spirit of feudalism does not admit of a burthensome taxation and Codugu would seem to justify the remark. The aborigines hold their lands on an average at an assessment of 10 *per cent.* on the gross produce, this in numerous instances (such being the currency in which services are rewarded and the manner in which the favor of the chief is generally, if not always evinced) is diminished at certain decreased rates, till, possessing a jagheer, the holder is exempt from all demand of taxation; after this manner about one fourth of the cultivated lands in Codugu proper have it is said been appropriated, that is, either rent free or at a very trifling assessment.

Reduced Assessment Jagheers &c.

The ancient adherents of the late Rajah who aided in expelling Tippoo were thus rewarded; there are it will be believed no allodial land, in consideration however of this easy tribute, the proprietor is liable to all feudal and other services he may be called on to perform.

Assessment paid by the inhabitants not Indigenous

Those Inhabitants not of the indigenous caste of the country pay 12 *per cent.* on the gross produce of their grounds, but though entirely exempt from military duties, they are obliged to discharge numerous personal services and servile labours to which the former are in no instance subject.

That levied on the Ceded Districts

The benefits of this easy land tax paid by the rest of Codugu has not been extended to the districts ceded by the Company in 1804, which in this important particular remain in the same state as they were at the period of the transfer, and consequently they are assessed at a rate considerably beyond the other parts of the country; similarly situated with at least a portion of their neighbours, this inequality produces none of the bad effects that might be expected to result from such disproportionable burthens.



It must be observed that the manner in which the assessment is made, tends to increase though not nominally, the proportion that has been stated as paid by the Ryot. In Codugu proper it is on the principal of the produce which the ground yields, and in the lower Districts the same, but ascertained by the measurement of it, nature of the soil &c. In the former instance in fixing the amount to be levied, the produce is established by the revenue officers on some acknowledged

Mode of levying  
the assessment.

principles, the measure used on these occasions is termed Bhutty, which is universal throughout Codugu proper, and contains 80 pukka seers, every hundred Bhutties produce (each Bhutty is calculated generally worth one Rupee)\* is respectively taxed ten and twelve Rupees; the mode adopted must in many instances operate unequally and the standard thus fixed exceeds it is said almost always the quantity yielded; thus a Ryot is taxed as cultivating land to the extent of any number of Bhutties when in reality the actual produce will fall short of the amount specified. I am led to believe that this extreme valuation is very general, and it may perhaps increase the

assessment to 6 or 8 *per cent.* still however leaving an ample and liberal share to the proprietor, who in almost every instance cultivates his own lands.

The monied rent is only imposed on Wet cultivation† the Ryot sows what dry grain pulse, tobacco &c., he pleases on the high grounds giving to the Cirkar some small proportion of the produce.

The tax on gardens, that is those attached to habitations, is paid in kind, each village agreeable to its extent furnishing a certain part of their produce at stated periods, the abundant portion of vegetable and fruits (articles entering so largely into the diet of the natives) thus constantly commanded, together with a large quantity of Rice produced in the several estates of the Rajah, is no doubt the reason that food on all occasion enters into a part of the wages of every description of public and private servant belonging to the chief. If to the Land Rent as has just been noticed be added a tax on Bazar

\* The husk is removed from the rough rice at a loss of about 50 *per cent* this reduces the Bhutty to forty seers the general value of which may be a Rupee.

† Nunjerajputtun is an exception to this observation, the chief produce of this District being the dry grains common in Mysore, the assessment is necessarily levied on them.

shops, and the *Saiee* or transit customs in which are included those duties paid for all articles brought for sale at the different periodical fairs, the catalogue of the fixed imposts as far as I have been able to learn will be closed. It cannot be denied however that the inhabitants of Codugu, independent of the established cess, are subject to occasional

irregular contributions, which it is neither easy particularly to specify or limit; these miscellaneous demands must of course be influenced by circumstances, sometimes partial, at others general,

but I am led to believe frequent in recurrence; they assume various forms—fines, *douceurs*, either in money or kind, and personal services do not form the least disagreeable article in the enumeration of such contributions; in fact, they are represented as harassing in no trifling degree, and it seems probable they would be gladly exchanged for any less fluctuating system, though it might entail an increase of the established taxes, indeed, security against exactions equally uncertain, vexatious, and liable to abuse, must be considered as cheaply purchased by any sacrifice of means, at all consistent with comfort. The foregoing remarks it may be observed refer only in a slight measure to the aborigines, but are quite applicable to all the other classes of inhabitants.

Inducement held  
out to occupy waste  
lands.

Every inducement is held out for the occupation of waste lands; if they have not been cultivated for some time they are exempted from assessment for two or three years, and if cleared from the forest, held rent free for a much longer period. In both cases the settler meets with assistance and the terms are sufficient to reimburse him for the expenses of a new undertaking; notwithstanding these advantages, and the easy assessment to which lands are eventually liable, nothing but extreme necessity induces the inhabitants of the neighbouring countries to seek a refuge in Codugu; emigrations from them into it are nearly unknown. The climate and a general aversion to these mountaineers, and above all a dread and dislike of their Government are objections sufficiently strong to deter them from choosing such a residence.

Realization of the  
assessment.

The assessment is paid in specie in the four months, succeeding the harvest, and its realization

is easy and sure. The cultivation is particularly open to the attacks of wild beasts; remissions however are generally made in all cases that appear to call for such an indulgence.

A knowledge of the country however minute, will not admit of any inferences being drawn as to the number, however it may as to the density of its population. Indeed the dispersed state of the inhabitants ought to produce a diffidence in even conjecturing as to their numbers; no direct information could possibly be acquired on this point, but the subject is sufficiently interesting to justify a few remarks.

Though there are discernable, no monumunts to attest the existence at any remote period of a very enlarged population, there are reasons for concluding it must have been much more extensive than at present. The country retains evident marks of having been at

one time portioned out into numerous minute divisions, though now no longer known or scarcely remembered, as such extensive lines or breast works at once displaying the character and perseverance of the people, and perhaps the disposition of the ruler, carried with incredible labour over the steepest hills, is a further illustration of this remark, and indicates a belief that these mountains must have been populated by an industrious and numerous race, and their fertility producing an easy subsistence, a circumstance so favorable to increase, together with their aversion to migrate, will strengthen the idea, that the numbers of this remarkable tribe have undergone considerable diminution.

Much of this is to be attributed to their wars with Tippoo, who pursued with relentless rigour the extermination of a race he found it so difficult to subdue; nothing could apologize for, or even palliate his atrocities on this occasion, unless indeed, the mandates of that faith which he took such violent means to inculcate, might afford a warrant for such a proceeding. That the efforts of the Sultan in extirpating them were prosecuted in the spirit of implacable hostility, is

evident from the circumstance that the chief of Codugu could at one time bring into the field, twelve

thousand\* men, but on the renewal of hostilities under Lord Cornwallis in 1792 he was only capable of raising four thousand; the other resources of his country being proportionally deteriorated. † A long continuance of peace has however recovered it in some measure from the effects of the desolation spread by the armies of Hyder and his son, and the population will doubtless be replaced by more tran-

quill years; it is at present far from exuberant, the late Rajah anxious to remedy this evil, and but little scrupulous as to the means, in

all his predatory excursions carried off a portion of the inhabitants, who appear invariably to have formed one of his articles of contribution; the country below the ghauts experienced the effects of his re-populating system, his depredations extended as far as Buntwallat, which seems to have been visited with more than ordinary severity. This ardour to increase the number of his subjects led him to discourage the odious custom of Polyandry, he married his subjects to all his female captives, and should they have had the misfortune to lose their husbands, he extended his care to them till he could provide them with others: and took the most rigorous measures to prevent the possibility of emigration.

There is no means of judging distinctly what proportion the Codugus bear to the other part of the inhabitants, but there seems reason for believing that they may form a third of the population. The extent of country denominated Codugu proper is the only portion occupied by the aborigines, comparatively few of the other castes are to be found in this space. The Northern and Western part of this tract may be considered as tolerably inhabited particularly the most mountainous portion. It continues to merit this character till passing the parallel of Veerajenderpett, thence it decreases in

Proportion that the aborigines bear to the other inhabitants, what parts they may occupy.

\* *Vide* Divomes Narrative of the wars of Tippoo Sultan.

† The late Rajah charges Prince Tippoo with having at different periods either destroyed or taken away 111,000 of his people, natives however are never scrupulous on the point of numbers and those here given appear most exaggerated. 12,000 of the families of those who escaped the sword were dragged from their houses and had been kept near Seringapatam, but on the approach of Lord Cornwallis to that place, eluded the restraint in which they had been held, and sought again the safety of their mountains.

‡ *Vide* Buchanan's Mysore.



density, and in the whole of Kiggut Naad is meagre and scanty, indeed to a degree quite inadequate to the cultivation of the arable lands in that district. A large extent along the Eastern boundary is wholly unoccupied.

Yailsowra and Nunjarajputtun by whom inhabited, density of their population.

Yailsowra is well inhabited, principally by the Sivabuctre tribe of whom there are a small number in the vicinity of Soamwarpett. Nunjarajputtun is occupied by the different Hindoo castes common in Mysore, and has a favorable density of population.

Of that of Umr and Sooleeay,

This remark will not extend to the talooks of Umr and Sooleeay, indeed the inhabitants are so thinly strewed over these districts as to give it the appearance of being half depopulated; to a bad climate, indifferent soil, and the ravages of the Sultan may be ascribed this deserted appearance.

Pootoor how inhabited.

The districts of Pootoor adjoining to the latter and stretching to the Western boundary, exhibit a much more prosperous aspect, and present the most compact and dense population of any other part of the country. The Bunter is the predominant tribe in the lower districts. Brahmins however form a large portion in those parts of Punjee, Bullaree and Sooleeay where the areca plantations are met with: the remainder of the population is composed of different sub-divisions of the more impure castes, slaves or prædial servants forming the most important portion.

General density of the population of Codugu.

On the whole this principality is very thinly inhabited, the nature of the country is not perhaps favorable to any exuberance in point of amount, its present numbers however, are below even a medium standard when compared with the capabilities of the soil, and extent of territory and space, which could with ordinary industry, be brought into cultivation; apart however from wars and attached to a soil that so easily supplies their wants, population

must be in a progressive state of advancement; with the exceptions that have been made, it is tolerably and equally distributed over the whole surface.

Its probable amount.

From all the indirect data that has been collected as to the amount of the inhabitants of this principality, I should be induced to fix it at about forty thousand souls, this would give a little more than eighteen to the square mile; a population that cannot be considered but as extremely thin and meagre.\*

Character of it.

The opportunities afforded for making those observations necessary to form a just estimate of the character of its inhabitants were extremely confined, and my intercourse too limited to enable me to learn experimentally at least much of their domestic life, or any of those characteristic distinctions requisite to obtain a knowledge of the people. Led however to believe that little is known of this mountainous race (though I pretend not to offer much that could illustrate their history,) a few cursory remarks may present some incidental views of them. In drawing this slight and imperfect sketch of the population of this little state, the variety of its formation may render it desirable to speak of it under separate heads; the indigenous offer the most interesting subject.

Of the Indigenous.

Codugu proper is inhabited by a race distinguished in numerous striking particulars from their neighbours, but though presenting in many instances a remarkable contrast with those occupying the plain, the character attached to them is doubtless, the result of the physical circumstances in which they are placed; they are a tribe more from position than genealogy, and cannot be said to be of distinct origin, though marked by many singular peculiarities.

The Codugus for such is the appellation by which this tribe is

\* Judging from Soanda (a country remarkable like Codugu in many particulars, which has a density nearly double the portion here stated and affords a good comparison, I should not be inclined to think the standard here given, at all exaggerated.

distinguished\* present an anomaly in the history of the mountaineers inhabiting the Western ghats. They as will be imagined, are totally ignorant of their own origin, nor are there any grounds that could justify much speculation on the subject. It may however be fairly

presumed that they are an ancient race. Their peculiarities. country holds out but few temptations to invasion, and its mountains secure it in some measure from the encroachments of conquest, its appearance shaded by immense forests, the marked peculiarities of its population in some of their institutions, appearance, customs, and language, all conspire to stamp with a venerable air this hilly tract and its inhabitants; and while the picture they present naturally leads us to assign them an era of great antiquity, a lively curiosity is awakened as to their origin, which however is involved in an obscurity, that leaves but few traces by which it could be removed; but their early history must be so much the province of hypothesis that it is neither desirable or necessary to attempt it.

Judging from some similarity of language, it may be conjectured that these mountaineers were a colony from Mulliallum, and their affinity in some points to the inhabitants of that country gives strength to the supposition that their descent may be deduced from such a source with some probability of truth. Insignificant in point of numbers, shut in by hills, and without the spirit or temptation of commerce which so much tends to wear off the distinction amongst

people, they have remained an unaltered race; and the singular policy of their Government which evinces an anxiety to keep them separate, added to their slight intercourse with the neighbouring countries, and their entire devotion to agriculture, must prevent them from mingling with the general community, and promises to retain long unmixed by foreign shades, the habits and peculiarities that distinguish them.

It is not easy to say what exact place the Codugus should occupy amongst the Hindu castes. They have generally been received as a division

\* It is a singular circumstance deriving the denomination of caste from position or rather the name of their country, it is quite unknown amongst the other tribe of Hindus.

of the Nair sect: some resemblance in character has doubtless led to this supposition, which however is quite erroneous, as they have no pretention to rank with the higher classes of the Soodra tribe. They are represented with more appearance of probability, as belonging to the same order as the Tiers of the Western Coast, and consequently must be placed even below the lowest classes of the Soodra division; they nevertheless are not wanting in some of the feelings of the pride of caste.\*

Though known under one general denomination, the Codugus are divided into several communities, but there are only two principal classes, which however in no measure separates them into professions or ranks, all enjoying equal consideration and advantages, the divisions are the Ammy Codugu and Codugus, the proportion of the former is small, perhaps not more than a fourth; they hold the first rank, and diet amongst the Hindoos being the criterion of eminence in such cases, their purity is sufficiently established by their forbearance from animal food; in the practice of this precept they emulate the abstinence of the brahmin and like him wear the janewar or thread, but never officiate as the priesthood. The gradations of society are marked by few distinctions, none enjoying any large share of credit but the chief; those arising from property are not numerous, and from rank or power still less, the condition of the subject is

Ranks. in all cases the same: there is no authority except that given by the service of Government, but this can scarcely be said to form an intermediate rank; in every essential point that constitutes character, all are on a level; but for a short time subject to foreign control, society retains the stamp of Hindu institutions, but slightly tinged by Mahomedan usages, indeed the character of these mountaineers is

\* The Tiers don't pretend of to be of the Soodra tribe, but acknowledge themselves to be of an inferior race called Paneorma. *Vide Buchanan's Mysore.* There are so many instances in common, that we might be led to suppose both claimed a similar origin, the Tiers are not particular in point of food, drink distilled liquors, marry after the age of puberty, admit of a plurality of husbands and direct their chief devotion to Bagwutty.

quite that of the Hindu (somewhat stronger marked) and though the shades of it are diversified by natural causes, it is a difference more accidental than specific; with that of their neighbours of course it will be expected to present some dissimilarity in those points that must be influenced by the government and other circumstances to which they are exposed, but it has no distinction in the particulars of prejudices and opinions which accompany it.

The Codugus are naturally sharp and intelligent, but of a crafty disposition, and of a reserved, shy and jealous deportment, with the same propensity to mendacity as all Hindus, and a total disregard to morality: in this instance they are in no measure chargeable with the vice of dishonesty so often the concomitant of falsehood; strangers alike to fraud or theft, they are accorded the merit of being faithful in their engagements, and equitable in their dealings, an abundant subsistence may perhaps have this favorable influence on their probity; they are of hardy habits, active and industrious, and have much of that spirit of enterprize and perseverance in execution, that often characterizes mountaineers; they are remarkable for an almost feudal fidelity, and a devotion to their chief that seems to absorb within its vortex every other duty, and which neither folly nor crime appears capable of weakening, an obedience to his commands appears to be considered as a primary virtue and most imperious duty. It is perhaps difficult to account for this singular adherence to their Prince, at least there is reason for believing it must be considered more as a necessary virtue, than any particular attachment to his person. Hereditary prejudices, the detached state of society, and perhaps above all the events of their history, have combined them into one body in which but little diversity of sentiment or interest prevails; there appears amongst them much of that concord and unanimity that goes to form a clan, and the spirit which influences such an association, is as much towards the chief as the community. Their dissimilarities to their neighbours and other circumstances attending them, promise long to keep alive these feelings.

The most remarkable feature in their character is the martial spirit that animates them; military merit is a quality in high estimation, and courage considered as the first of virtues, they may be said

to be armed almost from their childhood and the feelings attending a profession of them are inculcated and enforced throughout their lives, occupied either as soldiers or peasants, war and agriculture seem their natural pursuits; they leave the business of the merchant and artist to other castes; no evil arises from this union of soldier and husbandman, nor are there many traces of that rough and savage disposition that might be supposed to arise from such a mode of life, and such as often mark the manners of a military class. There are some points of conformity in their characters with that of the Nairs, both, though not soldiers, are devoted to arms, but the Nairs want a sense of personal dignity, and are in other points of view very inferior, cunning, deceitful, and often treacherous and cruel; they are strangers to the gallant spirit of generosity, and delicate sentiments, of honor for which these people are celebrated. Those feelings which attach the highlander to his mountains, and that fondness for which subjects of small states are distinguished as having for their country, is here equally remarkable. The Codugus are singular for their local predilections the character of their pursuits and the nature of some of the institutions under which they live, naturally secure their attachments to these wilds.

Addicted to husbandry their only education consists in acquiring a practical knowledge of it: the numbers whose attainments are of a more exalted kind are almost limited to the officers of Government, and their acquirements are by no means of a comprehensive nature; the body of the people as will be believed are wholly untaught, a circumstance naturally arising from the nature of their avocations, their want of instruction however scarcely leaves room for regret, as the usual results of ignorance—stupidity, inertness, or an addiction to vice, forms no part of their character; they are unacquainted with anything relating to the surrounding countries, their sequestered situation, raising barriers between them and their neighbours, by whom they are but little known, and this imperfect acquaintance has served but to render them feared and disliked; they entertain but a contemptible opinion of the inhabitants of the plain, and the sentiment as usual in such cases, is said to be pretty mutual; to this absence of communication, and unsocial feeling, may perhaps be partly attributed

the habitual distrust with which foreigners in general are viewed by these mountaineers, who thus detached form an insulated community.

Their manners present none of those symptoms of savage life frequently met with amongst the other mountaineers of India, and but few of its excesses, the ordinary domestic virtues are practiced amongst them; their intercourse with each other is marked by an expression of complaisance, and their demeanour is mild; if not courteous, they are in no way remarkable as having the rude nature of highlanders, and their pretensions to civilization, and progress towards refinement, would appear in most points equal to the inhabitants of the plain, from whom generally they are not distinguished by any peculiar or discriminate mode of life. Of the few usages in which they differ from them, their mode of marriage seems to offer the greatest contrast; amongst these mountaineers is observable, the extraordinary Usages, manners, &c. custom of a plurality of husbands, a family of several brothers having frequently but one wife;

the rise of this singular institution is involved in fable, nor can the imagination fancy a cause capable of producing such an effect. It has been ascribed to want of means, but in no part of India is a family viewed as burthensome, and this would appear an insufficient reason, particularly in Codugu, where the necessaries of life are in great abundance. If however such was the origin, the cause no longer exists, but superstition often maintains local usages after the circumstances to which they owed their birth had ceased to operate;\* this

Polyandry the custom from whence deduced.

custom is deduced by tradition from the five sons of Pandoo the heroes of the Mahabarat.† It is general throughout Bootan, known amongst the Csingalese and said to be traced in several countries from Thibet to Cape Comorin. The Codugus generally marry after the age of puberty; the nuptials of the eldest brother are first celebrated, and the lady in all cases yields a consent to become the wife of the younger ones.

\* It could scarcely have arisen from a disparity in the number of the sexes, although it is said in parts of the Peninsula where an accurate census has been taken, an excess of male above the female population has been found to prevail. In the Canara Collectorate containing a population of 396,672, the excess of males was 16,594 nearly one twenty-fourth. *Vide* Buchannan.

† *Vide* Wilks.

who when circumstances will permit are married successively, their spouses being in turn no less accommodating. Each brother has equal claims to regard, nor is domestic felicity interrupted by an unequal division of favors; it is difficult to say by what rules the transfer of them is guided; the indications of the lady's regard however are pretty distinctly evinced, a sword suspended to the door of a chamber shews that her affections for the time are engaged to its owner, and a similar weapon hung opposite to a closed apartment, forbids intrusion; this singular matrimonial system so inverting the idea of Mahomedan bliss, and so repugnant to more civilized usages, though now practised is not so general as it was at an earlier period, and there is reason to hope that in the course of time it may be discontinued. Another connubial usage prevalent amongst these Mountains may deserve mention. This is receiving wives from the palace; the women disposed of in this manner have been in some way or other escheated to the chief who bestows them on his subjects; the brides thus obtained are denominated Circar wives; the custom is still in force and the phrase common.

It will not be necessary minutely to state the ordinary detail of domestic economy, as practised by these mountaineers; there being but little peculiarity in it; they are rather indiscriminate in the article of diet, and appear but slightly restrained by prejudices in this particular; their principal aliments however are rice, vegetable, and a little dry grain imported from Mysore; the portion of animal food that enters into it, is in most cases the produce of the chase, their woods abounding in game of which they are indefatigable in the pursuit; absence from strong liquors does not appear inculcated by their prohibitory maxims, they indulge largely in the use of them, though not chargeable with any particular excess: artificial spirits is an indispensable article on civic festivals, and deep potations are allowable on such occasions, when all join with equal ardour and devotion.

Amusements.

Though dwelling in so scattered a state they are not remarkable for the absence of social virtues, the nature of their amusements are of a character

sufficiently rude and not such as here to merit much notice, the most remarkable of them is their dance which may deserve a short mention, more perhaps as being a species of recreation quite uncommon amongst Hindoos than in any particular singularity it presents. The performers joining hands form a ring, in the centre of which stand the musicians (always some of the party), a Codugu song aided by the music of some small drums, regulates the movement; the whole party joining at intervals in a rude chorus. Each performer carries a chowree (or some substitute for it) which he moves in unison with his body; this is changed in the second part of the dance, for two small canes, which each strikes against that of his neighbour, always observing due measure, the last movement is much brisker and more animated, this diversion is general, indulged on all occasions of rejoicing, and the spirit of the performance in which all take an active part, indicates the estimation in which it is held; they have no other active games peculiar to them.

**Burials.** The Codugu burn their dead, but their obsequies are attended by no remarkable forms, the corpse it is said is dressed in its best apparel, decorated in its military habiliments, and after some noisy ceremonies committed to the flames. Posthumous reputation is not unknown, and great merit never fails obtaining, an entrance into the Hindoo Pantheon. The head of a village in this manner is thus sometimes deified. His ashes are collected and deposited in a monument erected on the skirts of the town, it is formed like a house, in the vestibule of which are seats for the accommodation of the villagers, who frequently meet there. Images rude as the structure itself, generally adorn these rustic monuments of departed worth, they are viewed with veneration, and as the Codugu readily enlarges the list of his protectors, receive the same homage as is paid to the Grama Davities or *Dii Lares*.

**Religion.** The religion of the Codugus is Hindooism, with most of its trifling and puerile mythology. Their ignorance necessarily subjects them to all the illusions of its superstitions, which however here from circumstances have a weaker hold over its votaries; indeed the creed of these moun-

taineers it may be said, is one of large dimensions; their ideas of religion are loose and undefined, nor are they over scrupulous in the performance of those observances it prescribes. In point of ceremonial there is no distinction, and it is here accompanied but by few objects that strikes the senses; their religious edifices being of the meanest structure. The proper deity of the caste is Siva, who under the name of Maha Deo appears worshipped throughout most of the hilly parts of India. Numerous minor ones Gopa, Bagawutty, Coondamuna, and a long list of Bootas or infernal spirits share their adoration. Placing but little confidence in lonely austerities, they never become Sunneashes or Biragees, or indeed never enter into the mendicant tribe; their chief is considered as their gooroo or spiritual director.

These mountaineers were visited with a more than ordinary share of that intolerant zeal which characterized the last Mahomedan Sovereign of Mysore, the Persecuted by the Sultan: records of the persecution to which both they and the Nairs were subjected form the most disastrous period of their, and most sanguinary, of his history: eclipsing the many enormities by which the reign of the Sultan was distinguished.

The crusading spirit of Tippoo, seems to have led him to consider it an imperious duty to enforce the doctrines of the Khoran, as he extended the limits of his empire; but the inviolable attachment of the Hindoo to his own mild religion, forbade the hope of a voluntary conversion to a new faith, though one, that has been justly characterized as "giving a large scope to the passions of the mind and enjoyments of the body," the polemical animosity of the Sultan could not be appeased, but by an adoption of his own belief, as a substitute for that which he found established amongst these mountains; and as in cases of this nature, the end was considered as sanctifying the means, he resolved forcibly to convert them to it: this resolution was carried into effect with relentless severity, and there is reason to believe, from the rigorous measures pursued in the promotion of so barbarous a design, that the whole of the tribe underwent the rites of Mahomedanism, nor did the Rajah himself escape so degrading a ceremony being forced to undergo a similar initiation.



No remains of the Mahomedan faith found amongst these mountaineers.

Though Tippoo enrolled so many proselytes under the banners of the prophet, he appears to have impressed them with no taste for his doctrines: conversion however voluntary, is generally effectual, and the Hindoo thus shut out from his own caste, becomes a true believer; but the ancient creed amongst these mountaineers does not seem to be of that austere nature as to pass so severe a sentence on those unwilling converts to a foreign belief; all have been received within the pale of their ancient faith, nor are there any relicts observable of their imperfect conversion to the religion of Mahomed, although diffused so widely, and enforced so rigorously.

Person, appearance, &c.

The appearance of the Codugu is marked by no very harsh distinctions from that of their neighbours, they have all the Hindoo features, are of an active figure and vigorous form of body, of the ordinary stature, upright, well made, and with a complexion rather fair than dark, and conformation of person more spare than robust; their exterior generally, admits of but little variety; personal deformity is quite uncommon.

Dress, singularity of the costume.

In nothing are they more distinguished from the inhabitants of the plain than in the peculiarity of their dress; a costume so remarkable excites a curiosity as to the cause and period of its adoption, but nothing is known on these points; one so dissimilar to that worn by their neighbours doubtless has originated with the Tribe, as the caprice of fashions is unknown amongst a people equally invariable in their customs as modes; their garb (called coopsa) is comfortable and of a much more substantial nature than the Indian one, in general it has a very picturesque appearance though not apparently the most suitable to the country, or the active life of those wearing it, as it is requires to be tied or held up when a quick motion of the body is necessary. It is extremely simple, consisting merely of a large wrapper or shirt, open in the middle and reaching half way down the calf of the leg, it is rounded off at the neck, has long wide sleeves, and is bound tight round the body by a waist-band or narrow sash; a pair of short drawers sometimes is worn under the coopsa. Their turband is of a

peculiar form—large, flat at the top, and covering a portion of the back of the neck, the cap worn over it is an innovation, having been added as a sort of military distinction by the late chief; it is the particular mark of duty and distinguishes ranks by its colours, but has a grotesque appearance, and is not conspicuous for either its utility or elegance.

Codugu is not remarkable for cleanliness.

The Codugus are not observable as exercising the domestic virtue of cleanliness: their women are particularly filthy in their person which is ungraceful, and in no way distinguished by the elegance of contour that usually marks the Hindoo female; their dress is somewhat singular, being tied the reverse of the common mode, this is done in commemoration of some event, or in compliance with some superstitious tradition. The vest is made of strong cloth always doubled, both it and the turband are invariably white, that of the whole is uniform (except a very few, made of broad cloth always presents from the chief) there not being the slightest difference in make, shape, colour, or almost quality, of any rank.

Ornaments, display of wealth, &c.

It is in the Toorung or belt, girdle, sword, knives, and decorations of a similar nature that they discover their pretensions to rank, or riches. Their arms and appendages belonging to them being generally valuable and embellished in proportion to the wealth and station of the owner. They frequently wear the rood-racksha or bead necklace only used by the followers of Siva, are often seen adorned with bracelets made of gold or silver, these in every instance, are the gifts of the chief for some services performed.

Character of the other castes.

Of the other part of the population, but a brief mention will be necessary; they resemble their neighbours in all the chief constituents of character; that of the Hindoo of this part of the Peninsula is much the same or but slightly diversified. Of a gentle and inoffensive disposition, they are distinguished as possessing many amiable and useful virtues, and excelling in all the milder occupations of life, yet

indolent and sensual; all retrospect of the past is absorbed in the present, the enjoyment of which is not disturbed by any anticipation of the future, or anxiety about remote concerns.

Brahmins. There are scarcely any Brahmins in Codugu proper (the contrast between it and Mysore in the above particular is striking), the qualities for which this class of men are remarkable have here no scope for exertion as all the public offices are selected from the indigenes; indeed, this sacred caste are held in but low estimation by these mountaineers. The late chief it would appear, had no ordinary dislike to them, nor does the present one seem much more favorably disposed; their number below the ghauts is more considerable, but they are there seen as cultivators, deriving a subsistence from rural labors; their manners are simple, and they are more remarkable for the useful virtue of industry, than conspicuous for that pliant and intriguing character for which the caste is so much noted.

Lingait. The Lingaits like the Codugus, are found only in the country above the ghauts, where they are numerous; they are here seen as cultivators (the greater part belong to this body) or merchants, and are more distinguished for shrewdness and activity in the latter, than perseverance or industry in the former character: they are of the Soodra tribe, and bury their dead, but the sect, so numerous throughout Mysore, is too well known to require an enumeration of the particulars that mark them.

Christians. A colony of Christians settled at Veerajenderpett though forming but a small part of the population, may deserve a moment's notice. They are about two thousand in number, came originally from the Konken, and appear to have been some of the few who escaped the violent zeal of the Sultan, and sought a refuge in these hills, at the period when he determined on extending the faith of the Prophet over all his dominions, and as is well known, began this fanatical project by the conversion of the native Christians\* in it. Those here

\* Upwards of sixty thousand Christians are said to have been forcibly converted to Mahomedanism by this barbarous zealot, the execution of this design appears to have been commenced in about 1784.

are under the church of Bombay, a small chapel has been built and its services are performed by an ecclesiastic from that place; the condition of his flock however is far from flourishing, the greater portion of them are employed in the manufacture of arrack,\* an avocation that bespeaks the estimation in which they are held. Christianity has impressed no very awful sense of religion on its rude followers, who are subject to all the degradation attaching to a profession of it in Eastern countries; but a small share of the morality it inculcates is observable, and its votaries seem still to retain most of their ancient superstitions; indeed if either the condition or character of these followers of it be taken as a criterion, the most sanguine could scarcely hope much good to result from a more general conversion to its divine doctrines; every tolerance is shewn by the Rajah, and the Priest is in some measure supported by the Circar.

The Bunters form the principal body of cultivators or land-lords in the districts below the ghauts; they are a sect peculiar to Tullava and one of the highest rank of Soodras; diligent, persevering, and of simple manners, they are addicted entirely to agriculture. They are divided into two sects: the Jain who is ranked amongst the Chetty tribe, and who practices the abstinence of the Brahmin, and the Masady Bunter, who lower in rank, and less fastidious in diet, indulges himself in the use of ardent spirits; amongst them like the Nairs, filiation is reckoned from the nephew by the sister's side; this line of kindred is not chosen because the real father is equivocal, but it would appear to be in compliance with immemorial custom, and the usage presents a remarkable example of the powerful influence of manners and prejudices, over opinions and feelings.†

\* From Rice.

† This line of affinity is derived by tradition from one of the "Pándoo Princes who conquered Canara, he was the son of the king's sister and from that circumstance is said to have established the line of hereditary descent in the conquered country in the nephew by the sister's side." *Wilks*.

The practice however singular was not unknown in other countries, it was common in Africa, see Charlevoix, and it appears to have been at one time prevalent amongst the ancient Germans. Tacitus tells us "The relation of the sisters, children to the maternal uncle is said to be the strongest tie of consanguinity."



Lower classes. There are numberless other caste divisions of the Soodra tribe who form the large body of minor farmers and cultivators; they are equally industrious, orderly, and laborious, but are distinguished by no peculiarities from the same class of men in the neighbouring countries.

Musselmen. Of the numerous Musselmen whom Tippoo settled amongst these hills on the expulsion of the ancient inhabitants, but a few now remain; and of these scarcely any are cultivators, being generally employed as peons or servants; some Maupeelays are found in the district below the ghauts.

Koodiaroo a rude Tribe. A rude tribe called Koodiaroo are scattered thinly throughout the woods; they are nearly in a state of nature, and have but a trifling intercourse with the more civilized inhabitants; they occasionally cultivate the tops of the higher hills and employ themselves in extracting the juice of the palm tree, and collecting wild honey, yams, &c. The manners of these savages are inoffensive, and their number is very limited.

Mendicity, Vagrants, &c. Mendicants are rarely seen, and Vagrants of any description are scarcely ever met with.

Prædial slavery. The lower class of inhabitants, or those dedicated to the severer labours are slaves (*Adscripsi glebæ*). Prædial slavery exists in a greater or less degree throughout all the possessions of Codugu; the wretchedness of the lower classes bears a melancholy contrast with the comparative comfort of their masters: born in a state of vassalage the most degrading, this unfortunate race is condemned to a bondage the most oppressive, and from which there is no hope of escape.

Those consigned to it, their situation, value, &c. The caste of people consigned to prædial slavery in Codugu proper are known generally under the term Yerravaru. This tribe appears to have originally come from Mallialum, and though ranking amongst the lowest class of Hindoos, is considered on this essential point as superior to the Whoolairoo, the Pariahs of the Western Coast. Annexed to the soil, they are viewed as property equally with the land they till, and like it considered as patrimonial inheritance; the landed proprietor possesses generally an equal pro-

portion of both sexes, and the children in most cases being in the same condition with the parents, there are strong motives inducing him to promote marriage. The number of his servants will of course be in the ratio of his means. Three or four may be the medium possessed by a Ryot, although it is by no means uncommon to see that number increased to eight or ten, they are employed principally in the cultivation of rice, and live in huts near the fields where they carry on their work; connected by some ties to their masters, they are rarely transferred from one to another; conveyance by sale though in some instances practised is by no means general; a slave if young and well capable of labour is valued at about seven Pagodas, which sum is increased if he be married and has a family; the dominion of the owner over their persons is considerable, but his own interest is too much concerned to admit of its being exercised with any great severity; they receive no pay, are allowed but little clothing, and frequently a meagre subsistence.

Appearance of the Yerravaru. The person of the Yerravaru is diminutive, his complexion dark, and his whole appearance carries with it an air of wretchedness; his garments consist of a scanty cloth bound round his loins, he wears no turband, and his hair (rarely cut,) tied in a knot on the top of his head gives him a wild and savage aspect; among this race many were observed whose conformation bore a remarkable resemblance to that of the African: their thick lips and compressed nose, though both these features were considerably softened, rendered the analogy so singular, that enquiries were made as to their history, but no satisfactory information regarding it could be obtained.

Prædial slavery below the ghauts, observations on it. Prædial slavery in the districts below the ghauts, differs but in few particulars from that above; it is general throughout Canara. The numbers here condemned to this state of servitude are very considerable, and are in a state of degradation the most complete; themselves the object of universal contempt, they are divided into three classes, each considered baser than the other; holding the last place in society, they are employed in its meanest offices, and led out to work with the cattle; they are looked on as below the animals who share their toils, they possess no lands of

their own, but the cultivation is carried on almost entirely by them. From three to five may be the number possessed by a proprietor of a small estate. Though it cannot be said that they are treated with severity, the general tenure of their existence subjects them to great hardships; they are rarely sold, but are frequently given as a security for money borrowed, this is the most general mode of transferring the usufruct, and one above all others likely to produce the greatest wretchedness: the mortgagee has the benefit of their services for the time and this is considered as equivalent to interest; the value of a slave here being trifling as has already been mentioned.

Person of the  
Whoolairoo.

The physical appearance of the Whoolairoo is materially affected by the privations attendant on his mode of life; his complexion is of an exceeding dark hue: a scanty diet and coarse fare, renders him puny, squalid and diminutive, although he is sometimes capable of undergoing great fatigue.

Remarks as to  
this kind of rural  
vassalage.

The class of people just described have scarcely any idea of a future state; religious ceremonies however are not unknown amongst them, as they are sometimes seen to adore a rude stone, set up as a visible representative of the Deity. The state of prædial slavery here traced, has some conformity with that species of rural vassalage yet known in Poland and parts of Russia. The institution of castes however which places the servant at such an immeasurable distance from the master, leaves no room for the comparatively easy condition that may exist, where there is no such distinction to separate them. The Codugus and other inhabitants do not treat this race with the same abhorrence shewn them by the Nairs; they are allowed to approach them on all occasions, and contact is not supposed to carry with it defilement.

The Prædial servants of the cultivator obliged to perform the business for the Circar.

The servants of every ryot are held at the disposal of the Circar and their services given, as a right generally admitted. Each cultivator supplies a certain number in proportion to his means, and the Parputty of the Naad is charged with all

arrangements regarding them. Every district furnishes a successive relief within prescribed periods, and fifteen days is the time dedicated by each individual on these occasions to the Public service; this requisition extends to the district below the ghauts. The body of labourers thus always collected is generally employed at the capital, where works of some description or other are constantly going forward. No compensation is given to the owners of the servants thus employed; a portion of them are termed kooshee or voluntary (a great misnomer) and consequently get no wages, the remainder are paid at a very low rate: while employed they are fed by the Circar. This system presses with considerable severity on both masters and servants, particularly the latter, who feel and consider it a

Adds materially to the wretchedness of his lot.

serious evil; \* and there are numerous other instances in which the one is obliged to give, and the other to perform, the business of Government without any remuneration being received on either part.

Luanguage remarks.  
on it.

That this mountainous tract should have a dialect peculiar to itself is a phenomenon deserving some remark; the attainments of a philologist would be necessary to enter into those enquiries which so curious a subject deserves; no attempt will here be made to investigate its Etymology but perhaps a few brief remarks may be desirable.

The dialect spoken amongst these hills is known only to the Codugus, its use consequently is limited to a few people and it cannot be considered as the channel of intercourse with any but themselves; there is no data by which to establish its antiquity, nor can scarcely a well founded conjecture be formed as to the origin of it, unless from the apparent affinity it bears to the Mallialum, we are entitled to conclude that it is most probably derived from it, and that the alterations it has undergone have been caused by the detached and ignorant state of the society amongst whom it prevails.

That of a rude people.

The language of the Codugus has much of the harsh and disagreeable sound of the Malabar spoken on the Eastern Coast, it is unwritten and

\* They are frequently to be seen in flocks of twenty or thirty sometimes more, going to, or returning from Circar work, and their wretched appearance cannot but excite pity.

like most oral dialects scanty and meagre; there are but few abstract terms, and even the names of objects of sense are borrowed (some-what modified in the use) from other tongues. In short it appears evidently that of a rude people, and has no claims to be considered as a primary language. Indeed from its similarity to the Mallialum (a knowledge of the one implying some acquaintance with the other) there is but little doubt that it may be classed as cognate with it; it is however indebted to the Canarese and has many terms in common with the Tamil; in fact it may be said that the dialects spoken in the countries all around are accessory languages: the significancy of the words borrowed undergo but little change, though somewhat altered in the pronunciation.

Has no peculiar alphabet. Having no alphabet, the Canarese character is always used, and their own or that language written indifferently; the Native Officers of Government, whose attainments alone reach thus far, comprehend both perfectly: the former is used in all internal intercourse, the latter necessarily is the medium in all external connections, and may in some measure be considered the language of business the correspondence of the court with other Governments is in Persian. Canarese is generally understood, as also Mallialum but more imperfectly. There are no traces of the Hindoostanee that may have been introduced by Hyder's conquest.

The division of time and the arrangement of the year, is similar to that prevalent in Mallialum, whose calendar is the one that adjusts it; the Era, however is different. The inhabitants of the Western Coast dating from that of Parrasaramma, while that acknowledged here is the Calli-ugue; the distribution of the minuter periods of time is after the native mode, at the capital however the day is divided in the European manner: the names of the months no doubt originally the same as those of Mallialum, have some of them been slightly altered, others entirely changed. The following table shews the months, together with the European and Mallialum corresponding ones:—

MENOLOGICAL TABLE.

	Codugu Months.	Mallialum Months.	Dates.	European Months.	Dates.	Codugu Months.	Mallialum Months.	Dates.	European Months.	Dates.
1816 and 17.	Kunneea	Canni	1	September	14	Meeneear	Mina	1	March	12
			18		1			21		1
			31	October	14			30	April	10
	Tooleear	Tulam	1		15	Yeddi-meear	Mayda	1		11
			18		1			21		1
			30	November	13			31	May	11
	Birchiar	Virchica	1		14	Candeeear	Ayduma	1		12
			18		1			21		1
			29	December	12			31	June	11
	Durmeear	Danu	1		13	Andray	Maytuna	1		12
			20		1			20		1
			30	January	11			32	July	13
	Mariar	Macara	1		12	Kukkeera	Carcataca	1		14
			21		1			19		1
			29	February	9			31	August	13
	Coom-beear	Cumbha	1		10	Sineear	Singhium	1		14
			20	March	1			19	September	1
			30		11			31		13

The arts are in the rudest state of simplicity, nor do they ever appear to have been in a greater degree of advancement; the handicraft occupations of their neighbours are not generally practised though they have abundant leisure for so doing. The Codugus are unskilled in all useful inventions, and exhibit no ingenuity; indeed they are averse from disposition to any sedentary employment; in a primitive

state of society their actual wants are soon supplied, and they know none of those desires which alone can encourage the promotion of arts and advance civilization; they have however kept progress with the wants of the people, who are quite satisfied with such accommodations as the rude industry of the few artificers amongst them can furnish: of these few, none entirely devote themselves to any particular trade, relying more on their labour as cultivators than on their skill as mechanics.

Manufactures nearly unknown. Manufactures of any description are almost unknown in Codugu; the arms of every kind with which the indigenes are furnished form the only exception to this observation, as they are fabricated within the country; most of them however are given by the Rajah, who retains about him some excellent artificers; the agricultural instruments are of too rude a structure to require much dexterity or knowledge in the formation of them.

It will be believed that but little skill or taste can be employed upon their houses, and that no great share of architectural ability is necessary for the erection of them: their style and mode however is equal to that of their neighbours, but they must be considered as deficient in the business of carpentry, in which from the abundant supply of timber which their woods afford them, it might be supposed that they would exhibit some skill.

Of their agriculture. Of their agriculture—that first and most useful of arts—a sketch has been given; like the other parts of India, it admits of great improvements, and if a large surplus produce be a criterion of the success with which it is managed, a favorable idea must be formed of their skill in it: but this abundance is attributable to the richness of the soil, not to the exertion of the cultivator.

Commerce. Codugu affording in abundance all those necessities of life that are of primary utility, produces some superfluities valuable in a commercial point of view. Though some parts of it are in point of locality well

situated for carrying on an advantageous traffic, many causes operate to confine its commerce within a very limited channel.

Obstacles to it. Carriage so necessary to the existence of trade, is attended with numerous impediments; roads of the first necessity to its extension, and indeed a great means of improvement in every respect, are scarcely passable, and tend to render transport difficult, both as to internal and external circulation; a large portion of the population is averse to trade, fixed to the spot they cultivate, they know but little of its activity or intercourse, and feel neither its interests nor necessities. The few wants arising from the social connections which such a state of society render indispensable, are easily supplied; satisfied with the produce of their soil, which gives them no variety of superfluities to dispose off, they do not possess the means to procure, nor have they the taste how to enjoy foreign commodities. The monopolizing spirit of the chief adds to those natural obstacles which oppose an extended commerce, the few more precious articles of merchandise being entirely engrossed by him.

Internal traffic, periodical markets. The internal traffic is carried on through the medium of periodical markets; this species of fair is common in Mysore, and differs in no particulars from the haunts of Bengal. The people bring the produce of their farms and woods—rice, butter, ghee, honey, betel nut, (from below the ghauts) gram, (from the more open parts) poultry, fruits and vegetables of all kinds, and a variety of condiments much used in their diet; and receive in exchange steel, iron, and the various implements of that metal required in husbandry, coarse cotton cloth, gunnies, cumblies, and the dry grains common to Mysore, saltpetre, betel leaf, tobacco, jaghrý, also some date toddy. From Tellicherry, they get coarse blue cloths, dates, cocoanuts, oil, salt and salt-fish; these fairs are well supplied, and the poorer inhabitants generally barter one commodity for another, having but little specie amongst them.

Periodical markets such as have been described are necessary in a country where there are no towns, and with a population so scat-

tered. The districts below the ghauts, though in these points similarly situated, have no such institutions. The various religious festivals that occur at the different places of worship being almost invariably accompanied by a fair, compensate in some measure for their absence.

Marts, Veerajenderpett, &c. It has been seen that Veerajenderpett is the only mart of consequence in the country; situated on one of the principal roads in this part of the Western ghauts, its locality as a thoroughfare renders it particularly well calculated to unite many commercial advantages, and would serve as an *entrepot* for the merchandize of both Coasts; at present, however it is a place of very secondary consideration as to any general commerce. Muddukayray surrounded by hills and difficult of access is unfavorable for trade, and indeed can scarcely be said to possess any.

Exports. Rice—the principal product of the country, is its chief export; as far as I have been able to learn about fifty thousand bullock-loads of it are yearly exported into Mysore, but the largest quantity goes to Malabar and Canara; the extent of country from Mangalore to Tellicherry receives a constant supply. Fifty thousand bullock-loads are annually exported to each of those places, and almost all this is the property of private individuals; salt and money are taken generally in return.

Character of the Codugu rice. The rice grown amongst these hills is said to be comparatively tasteless, and of a coarse and large grain; it is however imported for the consumption of the inhabitants of Malabar and Canara, who find it profitable to export a great part of that produced in their own districts to Bombay, the Gulf, and the Red Sea. Tellicherry and Mangalore are the chief ports from which it is shipped. The Codugus are no carriers, the people of Mysore and Mallialum bring their own carriage for what they may require. The most favorable period for the purchase of rice is immediately at the commencement of the harvest in the end of November or beginning of December; from this

period till towards the close of January it is to be got in abundance.\*

The principal exports from the districts below the ghauts, consist in pepper, areca-nut,† rice, cocoanut-oil, and tobacco.‡ Iron, cloth, some cattle, &c., are taken in exchange.

Spices. The spices of Codugu, which form a principal article in the catalogue of its commercial wealth, rank amongst the spontaneous productions of the soil.

Cardamoms. Cardamoms hold the first place as to quantity and estimation; this valuable plant which has the peculiar character of being considered of the best quality when self-produced, is found it may generally be said, on nearly the whole face and summits of the ghauts coming within this territory; some parts of this extent have a more favorable locality than others, those bordering on Naku Naad (embracing a considerable distance North and South of it) produce the greatest abundance, the ghauts in the before mentioned district are the most fruitful; the whole produce of the country is derived from the above sources as none is cultivated. The cardamoms, and indeed all the produce of the woods exclusively belong to the Rajah.

Its growth. The growth of this plant appears confined to this part of the Western ghauts; a considerable degree of elevation would seem necessary to mature it, as it is not met with in the interior of the country, nor indeed on any level much below the summits and higher parts of the sides of the ghauts. It seems to thrive best in cold and humid situations

\* Rice during the season is sometimes sold at the periodical markets for upwards of fifty seers the Rupee. This extreme cheapness is perhaps attributable in some measure to the limited means of the poorer cultivators who to discharge the demands of Government, bring a great deal of their grain at this early period of the season thus overstocking the market.

† About four hundred candies are annually exported, each candy sells for thirty Rupees generally.

‡ Two hundred candies of this article is yearly purchased by the Collector of Canara at about eighty Rupees the candy.



and where there is a rich earth or mould; it is found generally in its greatest luxuriance in those places where trees have fallen from decay and covered the spot with their leaves, or where timber has been burnt: thus indicating that a soil impregnated with manure is necessary to it; it requires but little attention to ensure success, there is not the appearance of any care being bestowed on the plants, indeed they are so numerous, that it would be almost impossible to attend to them, the requisite air and heat desirable to promote their vegetation finds a ready access to them without any artificial aid.

The cardamom of these hills differs but in few particulars from the garden one, it however has a much more luxuriant stem, generally reaching to nearly eight feet high; it comes to maturity in about the fourth year and dies after yielding two crops, the first of which is the most abundant; the produce yielded by a cluster is not always the same, but sometimes reaches to a seer, and the period for collecting them is also variable. It may be said to begin in November and continue to January—some are gathered at the commencement of the rainy season; they are dried in the sun and always preserved in capsules. The cardamoms are collected by the prædial servants of the Rajah, they are guarded with the utmost care, and have a regular establishment for the purpose of attending them; the space in which they are found is divided into portions termed Mullas, each under charge of a Parputty, who oversees and registers the produce of it; the principal part if indeed not all, of the spices produced in the country is exported to Tellicherry, being generally sold to some of the wealthy Maupelay merchants of that place, and the purchase being almost always made at Muddukayray, they are at the expense of its transportation.

The Codugu cardamoms are next in point of excellence to those of Wynaad\* which are esteemed the first quality; and this valuable commodity may almost be said to be native to those two countries, as

Character of the  
Codugu cardamom.

\* The cultivator there divides his crops of cardamoms with the Circar, and has sufficient profit to induce him to continue the culture.

the few districts in Mallialum in which they grow yield but a small quantity. The average annual produce of Codugu is said to reach about one hundred and twelve Tellicherry candies, each candy consisting of six hundred and forty pounds, and valued at from eight hundred to a thousand Rupees.

Pepper is the next most important article: it grows spontaneously in the districts of Umr, Sooleay, and in great abundance on the lower declivities of the ghauts, it is also an extensive article of culture in the areca gardens of those parts; the more elevated country would not appear congenial to it, as though the vines are common, their fruit is in low estimation. The pepper of spontaneous growth is the property of the Rajah, as is also part of that yielded by the gardens in Sooleay, many of these plantations have it is stated been forfeited by the desertion at different times of their original owners; indeed the whole produce of the country is monopolized by him, as when the market is favorable, he becomes the purchaser of all belonging to individuals, to whom a very inadequate price is given.

Monopolized by  
the Rajah.

The distinction between what is grown spontaneously and that which is cultivated in the areca gardens is not material, the value of the latter being but in a small degree more considerable. It will not be necessary here to speak of the physiology of the pepper plant already tolerably well known. It seems the peculiar product (as regards the Peninsula) of the Southern part of the Western Coast, as the plant is not, it is believed known to yield fruit beyond the 15° of North Latitude.

The pepper vine will survive from twelve to twenty years. It renews itself, the shoots gradually forming into stems: the decay of the old vine is scarcely perceptible; the annual supply of fruit experiences but little diminution, and it has been accurately ascertained, that the plant will thus propagate itself, and continue to yield the ordinary crop for a period of forty years. It is of course known, that black and white pepper are the produce of the same vine the former only undergoing a different preparation; not being collected till perfectly ripe, it is then immersed in a preparation of chunam and water which destroying the outer coating,

leaves the corn white. Eight months are necessary for the fruit to attain perfection; the plants blossom in June or July, and are collected at the end of January or February.

Average yearly produce. The whole of the pepper produced in Codugu may amount annually to about four or five hundred candies, each five hundred and forty pounds; a candy is valued at about eighty Rupees.

Sandal Wood. Sandal wood is the produce of the more open parts, being found almost exclusively in Yailsowra and Nunjarajaputtun; it is not met in the interior or below the ghauts, at least only a few straggling trees are discernable in those parts; this like all the other valuable produce of the country belongs to the Prince: each head of a village is responsible for the care of that portion growing within his own limits. From twenty to twenty-five years is necessary to bring this tree to perfection. It requires a pebbly, dry, hard earth, and when found in a richer soil, has but little perfume. The sandal tree is generally felled at intervals of four or five years; the preparation necessary to fit it for sale is simple. That portion of the Mysore country bordering on the Eastern and part of the Northern limits of Codugu, produces a large quantity of this article, which is said here to be found in its greatest perfection. The sandal of Codugu in the immediate vicinity of those parts will of course merit a similar character;

Quantity produced. the quantity produced however is small, not being on an average more than two hundred candies; the value of a candy may be estimated at about one hundred Rupees; the whole is of spontaneous growth.

Cinnamon. The best description of wild cinnamon is found below the ghauts, but even that is of an indifferent quality, and can scarcely be said to form an article of export.

Imports. The imports of Codugu\* are exceedingly limited, consisting merely of cumblies, of coarse piece goods, salt, and the various minor articles that have been noted as imported at the periodical markets.

\* With the exception of salt the entire food of the inhabitants is found within the country.

Remarks on the commerce of Codugu. Sufficient has been said to shew, that the commerce of this principality is very confined, more so than perhaps would be inferred, from its extent; there is no carrying trade, indeed it is merely limited to exchanges, the produce of the lands and some few exotic superfluities, being given for such domestic necessities as the people do not possess or cannot manufacture. The imports for this purpose, are on a very limited scale; a more general intercourse, and the removal of some restrictions would doubtless render the trade of this little state more flourishing; but the habits of the people must undergo a material change before it would become of any consideration, or offer an opening for Europe commodities.

Balance of trade. How far the balance of trade may be in favor of, or against Codugu, it is difficult to say, as access to the information from which conclusions on the subject might be drawn is not attainable. It may however be remarked, that, admitting no luxuries or comforts but those of the rudest and most primitive kind, the wants of the people are confined within a narrow compass; and the produce of their fields giving them some superfluities for which they have a ready sale, it appears probable that the balance of trade is not against them.

Coins. This government has no mint, nor are there any coins peculiar to the country; those of Mysore and the Western Coast are current in it, and are received at the ordinary rate of exchange. Accounts are kept in Sultaneé or Baudry Pagodas, the Surat Rupee, Kontaroya or gold fanams, bily or silver fanams (coined and current in Mallialum), and doodoos and cash (the two latter copper); no smaller coins are in circulation.

Weights measures, &c., variety of them. The weights and measures are established by no fixed standard that should regulate the whole, but are subject to great variations, in different places, both as to purchase and sale.



The following Table is only generally applicable to Codugu proper. Within this space the Haunnee and Bhutty are the universal grain measures, and in them all accounts regarding it are kept; the Seer is divided into several parts: its basis is a bulk of grain, equivalent to the weight of eighty Rupees.

	1 Mannah	=	$\frac{1}{2}$ Pukka Seer.
	2 „	=	1 Seer.
Grain measure	4 „	=	2 „ = 1 Haunnee.
in Codugu proper.	20 „	=	10 „ = 5 „ = 1 Small Pan.
	40 „	=	20 „ = 10 „ = 1 Large „
	160 „	=	80 „ = 40 „ = 4 „ or 1 Bhutty
	27 $\frac{1}{2}$ Rupees	=	1 Seer
	40 „	=	1 Maund.
	20 „	=	1 Candy.

The above Seer is the Circar one, there is however another less than it, also in use.

Below the ghauts the Seer is only twenty-four Rupees weight. The following table is applicable to some parts of those districts:—

24 Rupees	=	1 Seer.
40 „	=	1 Maund.
20 „	=	1 Candy.

Pepper and Suparee are sold by this scale; in other parts the Seer is twenty-six Rupees weight, and the Dhurra equal ten Seers is in use.

The measures below the ghauts are equally various, the following is the most common:—

42 Seers	=	1 Moodan.
42 „	=	1 Corge.

The Moodan or Muddy is the universal grain measure in the lower districts; the Seer here mentioned differs from 80 to 84 Rupees in weight. The measure in Yailsowra does not vary greatly

except in some of the terms from Codugu proper those in ordinary use are:—

2 Seers	—	1 Haunnee
3	Do	— 1 Coolg
20	Do	— 1 Cundy.

Of the land measures it was impossible to get any satisfactory information; that given was so inconsistent, as sufficiently to shew a disinclination to communicate any thing on the subject. The land measure of Codugu proper is known throughout its extent by the term Bhutty; this is understood as that space of ground which will produce such a quantity of grain; in Yailsowra, Cundikay and all the lower districts, Mudday is both the dry and land measure.

The system of long measures prevalent here has not been fixed by any very nice rules, those in general use are the cubit and span, to determine which the arm and hand are respectively used.

Distances are computed by the difficulties the road may present, and the time requisite to traverse it, more than its actual length; they are also calculated by sound, thus 'as far as a man can halloo' or 'as a horn can be heard,' which from the reverberation of the wood and hills is a long distance, and the Natives have a very peculiar manner of calling or shouting. The coss in the more level country may be estimated at three miles, but in the hilly parts a little more than two.

The Musselman dominion under which Codugu passed, was too transitory and unstable to change the old institutions by which it had for time immemorial been governed. The rule now in force is of a mixed nature: it is something of the feudal, something of the patriarchal kind, but in this latter instance vesting prerogatives in the chief, greatly beyond the bounds of paternal rights; indeed as far as regards him, like all other Indian states, it is entirely absolute "admitting of no relation

but master and slave." It has however some peculiarities that may argue a claim to antiquity, and suggests the idea that it exhibits, perhaps somewhat modified, the relicts of a mode of rule that may at one time have been common throughout the whole of this mountainous tract, but is now known only here.

The Chief of Codugu exercises an authority that knows no restraint, but his conscience—a control not always powerful enough to curb his extravagances or excesses, from which there is no security; indeed he would seem to interpret very literally the royal maxim that ascribes infallibility to the ruler. He shares in common with the gods, the homage of his people, and a more than ordinary portion of Eastern humiliation is observed towards him; he is approached with a reverence due alone to the deity, and addressed with all the servility fear could yield, or despotism claim; in his presence (in which no subject dare be seated or indeed within the precincts of his fort) the subject clasps his hand as in the act of prayer (the last sign of slavish vassalage); and he is accosted in a language quite correspondent with this suppliant attitude; his subjects know no duty more imperious than attending to his mandates, which received with veneration are executed with singular precision, and his projects of whatever nature seconded without enquiry; nor would the most presumptuous hazard an opinion as to the propriety of his commands or actions; but fear alone produces this instantaneous compliance with his will however capricious; and obedience is maintained by an exemplary severity that however it may command submission, cannot create affection.

The rigorous exercise of such unbounded power will of course be tempered by customs and usages, which having the force of law, and sanctity of religion, must challenge some respect, but the real situation of the people is complete slavery; under so arbitrary a sway, safety of person and permanency of property must depend on the precarious will of the ruler; political freedom forms no part of the elements of an Asiatic system of Government, nor perhaps is it desirable it should; but the inhabitants of this little state are interdicted from almost any share of that practical liberty which their neighbours enjoy.

Severity not exercised by the minor authorities.

Though the Government of Codugu conveys the most abstract idea of despotism, it must be characterized as more capricious than elaborate in its rigour; and whatever excesses the personal character of its head may lead him into, they are not by any means carried through the minor sub-divisions of power, the Prince alone enjoying the prerogative of indulging his caprice at the expense of humanity; in short the spirit of the Government is that it should be feared, and the principal is literally supported by the fact.

Anxiety to conceal the affairs of the country.

It would be difficult to convey a just idea of the anxiety shewn to conceal the most minute trifles relating to the country, and equally so to account for a distrust not more extreme than unfounded; this indiscriminating jealousy excites the greater wonder, as nothing can be more complete than the dominion enjoyed by the Native authorities within their own limits; not the slightest interference of any description being exercised to influence the internal economy of the administration.

Measures taken to secure silence regarding them.

The means adopted to secure secrecy on state affairs are of a very efficient nature; throughout the reign of the late Chief, and probably long before its commencement, the transactions of Government, or those of the reigning family, were positively prohibited as topics of even private conversation among the inhabitants; this fundamental law is observed with such strictness, that it has the effect of imposing a complete silence throughout the whole body of the population, on every subject except that of the most ordinary nature. The present Rajah is represented as enforcing this state maxim with unabated rigour; solicitous on this subject a disciplined system of espionage has been established by him more effectually to secure the observance of this law; the breach of it is a crime to which no mercy is extended\*.

\* There are numerous stories current that might be adduced in support of these remarks and were the generality of the belief a proof of their veracity, there would be little hesitation in crediting them. A few however will answer all the purpose of illustration for which alone a recital of such is desirable.

General character of the rule. It will be readily believed that there are but few, indeed no opportunities of learning those particulars from which conclusions could be drawn as to the direct operation of such a rule, or the extent of the severities practiced. The general tone of the administration however is by no means ambiguous; a system of unremitting coercion or rather intimidation, is exercised over all; it occasions an implicit obedience throughout every rank, but the individual distrust and apprehension which such a Government of necessity must produce, are too striking to be mistaken, and do not require the concurrent testimony of those living in the vicinity, to strengthen the inferences that must necessarily be drawn from such appearances. The princes of Codugu, it would seem had always been remarkable for ruling by the scimitar; the late Rajah who usually made his own caprice the standard of equity,

The anxiety to conceal the internal policy of the country could not be stronger evinced, than in the case of Faqueerodeen, a Moonshee of respectability who settled at Muddukaray in the life time of the late Rajah, to whose illegitimate children he acted as tutor; some time subsequent to the death of his old Master finding his situation at once irksome and unsafe, he solicited permission, a few years since, to proceed with his family to Mysore. Aware of the difficulties that opposed his wishes, he left no means untried that could overcome them but without success; to admit of the departure of a man whose long residence in Codugu gave him a knowledge of the affairs of the country was not a part of His Highness' policy, and the unfortunate teacher persisting in his wish to retire, fell a victim to his temerity; himself and family to the number of fourteen persons being it is said indiscriminately murdered, as the only means of appeasing the alarm which his departure would have created.

Another instance will suffice to shew the same jealous and sanguinary disposition. About the period the above transaction took place, Byranjee, a respectable Parsee merchant, and a great favorite with the late Rajah, having suffered some indignity, felt disposed to leave so insecure a residence, and after repeated applications obtained permission to quit the country; he proceeded to Veerajenderpett, remained there a few days, and thence set out for Mysore, but was waylaid on the road and assassinated by the emissaries of the present Chief.

Other instances might be added which shew whatever attachment he may profess to the British, he equally dreads their power and fears experiencing it. I have been confidently told by many Natives that some years since when one of H. M.'s. Regiments were about to leave Cannanore for some other Military Station and as it was then conjectured, would march through Codugu as the most convenient road, he immediately concluded on learning the proposed route that the object was to seize his country and could be with difficulty be persuaded from openly manifesting the extreme alarm he felt.

placed but little value on the lives of his subjects, whom as the sanguinary insanity of the moment may have dictated, he used to destroy on the slightest offence or sometimes even suspicion of it; and his successor has the reputation of being distinguished by similar propensities, and by a disposition equally remorseless; surrounded by those who are ever ready to obey his mandates, whatever may be their nature, a hint is a sentence without appeal, and he administers the executive part of justice in a manner equally prompt, severe, and decisive; this species of retribution however only takes place in cases of violated Majesty, a law never infringed with impunity, and one (if we believe report) which Tiberius himself had scarcely more occasion for.

However austere the control which the Chief of Codugu may exercise within his own limits, he at least merits the reputation of preserving the utmost harmony toward his neighbours; though with some of the predatory propensities of mountaineers, and all the facility of retreat and concealment, acts of violence of any description against those living on the borders are entirely unknown, nor do offenders who may have fled the justice of their own country, ever find an asylum here.

The constitution of the secondary authorities is simple and efficient, and a great spirit of regularity and order is observable throughout the interior arrangements; the larger divisions of the country have each two Subadars, and a Parputty presides over the smaller ones composing them; these Officers are entrusted with the collection of the imposts and administration of justice, their authority however in the latter particular is very limited; every place of responsibility is held exclusively by Codugus; the income attached to all Officers is paid in cloths, food, land, &c., and but a small portion in money. The minuter details are carried on by the ordinary village Officers; some ancient feudal services not known in the neighbouring countries are practiced here—it is not easy to specify them; all public duties and requisitions however both ordinary and extraordinary, are performed by the inhabitants of the different districts to which they may have reference, and remuneration is rarely expected or made.

Administration of justice.

The course of distributive justice runs pretty evenly except when interrupted by the caprices of the Prince; there are no laws, but custom with authority scarce less sacred, has all the force of a more authentic system of legislation.

By the Prince in person.

As is generally the case in such a state of society, the Prince administers justice in person, and the inferior authorities have a power of deciding to a certain extent and inflicting slight punishments; a court of Arbitration formed by the most respectable inhabitants of the place, assist the investigation of these Officers and determine all cases of minor consideration; such judges intimately understand the character and interests of the parties, and false pretences can readily be detected; disputes of a serious nature and question involving property to any amount, are determined only by the Rajah, to whom in all cases there lies an appeal. The inhabitants are by no means remarkable for that litigiousness observable in those natives living in the vicinity of our Courts of Judicature. The executive part of the justice though arbitrary is rarely abused, and natural equity is not often violated; indeed the system altogether seems to correspond with the pre-

The mode of distributing it, accords with the prejudices of the people.

valailing habits and prejudices of the people, and though not guided by authentic laws, the ends of justice are rarely defeated; its simplicity supercedes formalities, and the administration of it is immediate.

Punishments, description of.

In most cases of ordinary delinquency, the culprit is moderately corrected with the whip, (the principal and deputy are subjected equally to this discipline, but punishment would seem to entail no very serious disgrace), or the offender expiates his crimes by labouring for a certain time, on some of the Public Works; greater severities are rarely necessary, it is only when the transgression is against the State that the criminal is treated with rigour, on these occasions, no great violation of law constitutes guilt, nor is any nice proof requisite to establish evidence of it.

Punishments of a serious kind are only inflicted by order of the Chief, who it is said has himself more than once, descended to the office of executioner, when the individual has personally offended him.

Of the nature of these punishments it is not possible to speak from observation, and it is difficult to credit the stories that are told of their frequency and ferocity; the ordinary ones are stated to be crushing to death by elephants, or decapitation by the Codugu sword, a most efficient instrument for such an operation; others less expeditious and more cruel are resorted to. The secondary ones are, dislocating the toes and fingers, suspending the offender by the ears, punching out his teeth, amputating his nose and lips, or otherwise mutilating

his person. When of a capital nature, punishments are never public, and every care is taken to conceal them from the people. The sufferer is proclaimed as having deserted his home, and a reward offered for his apprehension; should he be of any consequence, instructions are given to make a diligent search after the fugitive, which as will readily be believed proving ineffectual, he is declared to have eluded pursuit and escaped to some of the neighbouring districts; artifices of this nature cannot be imagined long to retain their power of imposing, but the danger of mentioning the transaction, secures silence regarding it.

Police.

In a country where the forms of judicial procedure are so primitive and where immemorial custom takes the place of law, the enforcement of its precepts will not require any complicated system of Police; the limited extent of the territory, admits of the influence of a vigilant control over all its parts. Communication is frequent, tappals being stationed on all the great roads; indeed intelligence of any occurrence, not of a very ordinary nature is conveyed with apprehensive celerity.

Measures taken to prevent emigration.

Except on the large roads, ingress and egress are strictly prohibited; at those points where they cross the boundary, there is in every instance, a guard house, on reaching it the traveller must be furnished with a passport without which he could not proceed. The inhabitants of the country are under similar restrictions, none being permitted to quit it without leave, in requesting which the petitioner must state his business in the most explicit terms, and his family in almost every case, remain behind as a pledge for his return; emi-

gration is prohibited under the severest penalties, and the commission of this crime is followed by a punishment that bears but little proportion to the guilt; in fact, the precautions taken to prevent it are of a nature nearly to preclude the possibility of success in the attempt; failure involves the fugitive in certain destruction, and so rigorously is this prohibition enforced, that the inhabitants of the neighbouring countries characterize Codugu, as a large prison from which there is no escape.

The habits of the people secure safety to the traveller, and security to his property.

The Peons at the different Cutcheries and guard houses perform all the duties of Police, tumults and disturbances are unknown, and the peaceful manners of the people rarely give occasion for coercion; possessing all that reverence for property, so necessary to preserve the order of society, they have no disposition to theft. Robbery is never heard of, and the prominent vices and habits of strife, frequent in more civilized countries are equally uncommon; and it may be said, that there is throughout this principality a security of person and property to the traveller, that belongs to a state of improvement, to which its inhabitants have not yet reached.

Strangers viewed with suspicion.

The anxious suspicion with which strangers are observed has already been noticed; European travellers experience the utmost attention, but are excluded from all intercourse with the people, and surrounded by those, who watch them with a respectful vigilance; in short, a narrow suspicious and inquisitorial policy is observable, and a strict surveillance sharpened by habitual distrust, every where exercised.

Character of the present Chief.

The Linga Rajah \* Woodier † the present Prince of Codugu, is the younger brother and successor of Veerajender. The late Chief anxious

\* The Lingait sect appears to have given sovereigns to all the states in this neighbourhood. The Codugu family are of that tribe as also were those of Bednoore, Mysore and Soanda.

† This is sometimes called Udier, it appears a title, but might more properly be construed into Zemindar. It is said also to mean a lord of a certain number of villages.

to prevent his brothers from acquiring any influence, retained them in a species of exile; Appajee Saib the elder, is represented as having been of a violent temper and impatient of control, this turbulent spirit hurried him to a premature end, and Linga Rajah had nearly shared the same fate, but seems to have owed his safety to his insignificance. Having past the early part of his life in occupations but little removed from those of the ordinary husbandmen, his abilities are not above mediocrity, nor does he possess docility to compensate for the absence of genius. Weak, frivolous, and puerile, he is naturally swayed by those around him, but over-bearing, irascible, and sometimes cruel, he is represented as being controlled by no compunctions of morality or conscience in quieting those apprehensions to which a jealous and distrustful disposition give birth; but a suspicion easy to be provoked and difficult to be appeased, suggests the belief that he feels all those terrors which he inspires. Authority in Codugu would seem always to have been maintained by the sword, and though circumstances will not allow of a proof of what they indicate, they warrant the conclusion that he is at least equal to any of his predecessors in the liberal use of it. He is said to be disliked by his subjects, many of whom have fallen victims to his caprices. Of his acquirements, but little can be said; his means of observation have been too limited to admit of an extended knowledge of other countries, indeed both his ideas and information are confined within the narrow limits of his own little territory.

A courteous dissimulation disguises under a polite deportment, a temper naturally imperious and relentless, and a suspicious and vindictive disposition is concealed by a mild and specious address; to Europeans he is remarkable for a prepossessing affability and condescension; feeling only the servility of others, and in a situation where none can resist, few dissuade, our wonder should be more excited by the suavity of manners for which he is remarkable, than the severity of disposition that characterizes him.

Education, personal accomplishments.

The nature of his education has given him a propensity to active exercises, much of his time is occupied in field sports; they are on an extensive scale and embrace a wide circle of slaughter, game without distinction



or number being killed on these occasions.\* He is a good marksman, uses his spear with dexterity, is an excellent Mahaout and skilful rider; it is difficult to say whether he takes an active personal share in the administration of his affairs (I am led to think not) nor is it easy to state what are his usual occupations or the ordinary distribution of his time; when not exposed to public view, much of it however is devoted to frivolous and childish pursuits.

Linga Rajah is now in his forty-fourth year, about the middle size and actively formed, but in no way remarkable for any particular symmetry of features; he is rather dark complexioned, and the general expression of his countenance is not disagreeable, though not indicating the habit of peremptory authority and acknowledged command; he is plain in his dress being usually habited in a loose gown, reaching to his ancles, to this is added a black silk cape, and a cap of similar materials substitutes the place of a turband; on great occasions however, this simplicity of dress gives way to the splendour of an English General's uniform; a string of pearls to which some jewels are affixed suspended round his neck forms the only ornament of his person, a Codugu sword is always placed on the table before him (it appears one of the Ensigns of his authority) or carried with him when he moves.

The forms of his Court exhibit but little pageantry, presenting nothing of that cumbrous and barbaric pomp in which Native Princes of whatsoever rank so much delight; indeed it is remarkable that he seems always surrounded by menials rather than men of rank; there is however an appearance of permanent regularity and economy, the reverse of that gorgeous improvidence for which they are remarkable; about ninety elephants and half as many horses together with some troops of dancing girls, (without which Hindu greatness would be incomplete,) serve to maintain the rustic splendour of his Court, the few troops that garrison his town are also his guards.

\* It as already been said the woods abound in game, the late Rajah who indulged himself much in the pleasures of the field and would appear to have kept a register of his triumphs on those occasions, mentions in his history having in the course of twelve days amusement, killed six hundred and twenty-eight head of game (amongst which were twenty-six elephants) a sufficient proof of their number.

It is not easy to surmise what may be the number of his family, as information of this nature never transpires beyond the walls of his palace; he seems however in this particular to have retained some remnants of Moorish manners \* as the extent of his zennanah is represented as quite in conformity with Mahomedan taste. His eldest son is a fine boy about twelve years old, and destined to succeed him. Appajee Saib left many legitimate sons, but their claims have been superceded. Of the three daughters of Veerajender no public notice is taken, immured within the palace, they live in tranquil obscurity.

Strangers are treated with the utmost hospitality and attention: on their entrance into the country they are met by some of the Officers of Government, who render them every assistance, carriage is immediately furnished for the transport of their baggage, and elephants or other modes of conveyance await their command; a table is furnished for them, all their wants anticipated, and on no occasion remuneration of any kind permitted to be received; a handsome house has been built at Muddukayray expressly for their accommodation and the politeness and attention of the Rajah himself quite coincides with the liberal provision for their convenience.

† Though not equally munificent as his brother, he is in no way remarkable for a contrary character; the attachment which that Chief evinced to our Government, the veneration with which he viewed the English, and the generous hospitality with which he treated all belonging to that nation, are alike professed by the present Prince; indeed he attempts an imitation of Veerajender, but seems only capable of copying the darker shades of his character; how far the warm adherence of the elder brother to our cause may have been

\* He was imprisoned in Periapatam with his brother.

† The Rajah has a great taste for European fashions, his palace it has been seen is much after that style, and the furniture of it quite corresponds. When receiving visitors but little ceremony or state is observed, his Durbar is held in a room differing but little from an European parlour.



transmitted unimpaired to the present Chief, the jealousy and distrust which he manifests gives room to doubt, and suggests the suspicion that his fidelity may be graduated by an Asiatic scale; were however the sincerity of His Highness' assurance only in proportion to the strength of his declarations, as to this particular, there would be little room for apprehension on so interesting a point.

On this subject no information has been acquired from the native authorities here, circumstances dictated the necessity of waiving all mention of it, as their apprehensions, already too sensitive, must have been further alarmed into activity by any enquiries of this nature, and it may be added that from such a channel, the most distant approximation to a knowledge of the fact could not be expected. The following information has been derived from a source, calculated to impress a confidence as to the correctness of the statement now presented.\*

Like every other part of India, the principal revenue of Codugu arises from a territorial land tax; the subsidiary sources are the customs, cardamoms, pepper, sandal wood, tax on houses, bees wax, (about ten candies of this article is annually collected) honey, (of which the woods produce about six candies) Ivory, a candy of elephants tusk is yearly collected in the forests; they belong to the Circar, which also derives a profit from sales of timber, the proceeds of this however are extremely inconsiderable. Timber though in great abundance can scarcely be considered as a source of revenue, the difficulty of carriage is so great (water carriage is impossible) that none is exported, and that felled for internal consumption is in most cases free from charge; about ten candies of sugar, and sugar candy are produced in the different Punnuaes.

\* Much of this communication was received from a Native merchant, who from his intimate intercourse and long continued transactions particularly with the late Government possessed a more extensive intelligence on everything connected with the country, than almost any other individual not immediately concerned in the management of it.

The following abstracts, will show the estimated amount of the revenue of Codugu, it includes every source of profit (of any importance) derived by the Government; and from the careful enquiry and impartial information on which it is founded is entitled to a confident belief of its general correctness.

Abstract Table of it.	Surat Rupees	
	Land rent, house tax, customs,* and	
	sprituous liquors. ... ..	400,000
	Cardamoms ... ..	100,800
	Pepper ... ..	34,400
	Sandal wood. ... ..	20,000
	Rice, the produce of the Royal	
	Punneeays	60,000
	Sugar and sugar candy, the produce	
	of the Royal Punneeays ...	1,000
	Bees wax... ..	3,000
	Honey ... ..	1,800
	Ivory ... ..	600
	Total ... ..	621,600 †

From the above it will be seen that Codugu yields annually something more than six lacs † of Rupees, a revenue greater in extent, than could have been before in the possession of the Codugu family, and one that leaves the present Prince in ample funds to gratify his sensuality, soothe his pride, or indulge in the most extravagant of his follies.

It is not easy to state what proportion the disbursements may bear to the receipts; but the charges of Government are extremely small, neither its public servants

\* The Military road lately cut through Wynaad offering so excellent a communication with Malabar has greatly decreased the transit duties on foreign goods passing through Codugu, till lately they produced ten thousand pagodas a year, the Heggulla pass being the direct road from Cannanore to Mysore, but in consequence of the superior facilities offered by the Peria ghaut the former pass is now nearly deserted and a diminution in the Soonkut customs of Codugu of nearly eight-tenths of their former amount has in consequence taken place.

† The revenue of the districts in Canara ceded by the company in 1804 amounted to Kanteroy pagodas 24,879-9 8½ or 74,637-9-8½ Rupees.

‡ Valuing the Surat and Bombay Rupees the Sona, this would give a very little more than (82) eighty-two pagodas per square mile.

north the military part of the establishment being expensive; the larger share of the revenue must be at the personal disposal of the Chief and goes to defray his immediate expenditure, which though he has not the reputation of that splendid generosity that marked the character of the late Rajah, and is by no means remarkable for exterior grandeur or state, is said to have exceeded his Revenue, a circumstance that from appearances there is reason to doubt; much however is expended in charity, or rather lavished on the numerous religious mendicants who visit the country at the different festivals, particularly those of Siva Ratree and Tulla Cauvery, and much more thrown away on puerile and frivolous objects. It will be readily believed that no distinct account can be given as to the present state of the exchequer; at the period the present Chief assumed authority, it was in a flourishing condition, as the late

State of the  
Treasury.

Rajah at his death left in the treasury forty lacs of Rupees, including twelve which he subscribed to the loans of our Government. He was in the habit of laying aside annually a large quantity of treasure, and previous to the fall of Seringapatam he greatly replenished his exchequer by the plunder of the surrounding countries. The neighbouring districts felt the pressure of his contributions as he was remarkable for this species of fiscal ability and his situation eminently enabled him to profit by it; a better order of things has however cut off so gainful a source of revenue.

Actual condition of the country and its Inhabitants. From the observations that have already been offered some general idea will be conveyed of the actual state of the country and its inhabitants; the detailed form and detached manner in which the subject has been mentioned will excuse if not render desirable, a few general and condensed observations that may serve to illustrate and bring them more immediately under one view.

The inhabitants of a country have less to fear from the cruelty than rapacity of their ruler, the evils of the former must necessarily be limited, except to a few; in consequence it may be concluded, that the despotism exercised in Codugu will not materially affect the happiness of the body of the people, but subject to caprices equally numerous as violent, apprehension will destroy that assurance of security so necessary to it, materially influence their

social connections and produce a restraint and suspicion in their intercourse with each other.

Condition of the aborigines bears a favorable contrast with their neighbours.

The condition of the aborigines bears a very favorable contrast with that of their neighbours; the demands of Government on the produce of their industry are extremely light, and easy culture gives them abundance of the necessities of life, and (as the idea of its comforts must be diversified in proportion to the change of habits and manner) they may be said to enjoy a large share of its conveniences. The peculiarity of the institutions under which they live, imposing the obligation of dedicating a portion of their time to public duties, necessarily relieves the severe toils of rural employments; the lot of the ryot in general does not reach to opulence; if however the tranquil enjoyment of their fertile valleys, a plentiful diet, good clothing, and tolerably comfortable habitations be taken as the measure of prosperity, the aboriginal portion of this mountainous peasantry enjoy in a considerable degree most of the comforts compatible with their situation.

Condition of the other classes of inhabitants inferior to it.

Such however cannot be generally represented as the case with the other tribes forming the population of the country; their interests are postponed on most occasions to that of the indigenous, and they are subject to demands, and compelled to the performance of services to which the latter are exempt; but their situation is still not unfavorable, the moderate assessment to which they are liable, though sometimes increased by requisitions, enables them with ordinary exertion to live within a comparative degree of comfort, and those in the lower districts (ceded by the Company) though not having the advantage of so good a soil, and subject to higher imposts are in easy circumstances; this is attributable, it is probable to the state of landed property there.\* There can scarcely be said to be any intermediate class between the farmer and his prædial servant, whose situation approximates closely to the lowest scale of wretchedness.

\* The remarks are applicable to Canara generally, where the inhabitants are in finitely better situated than those of the neighbouring countries.

Though there is a disparity in the condition of the people (and a distinction in other particulars supported by prejudice) it may be observed, that as far as regards the necessities of life they all possess them in sufficiency if not in abundance, procured without the necessity of any very laborious exertion, and enjoy much of what is necessary, to recompence diligence; their accommodations though not numerous are equal to those of their neighbours, rapacity not forming a very prominent feature of the rule that governs them; exactions on the industry of the poor, or wealth of the more opulent though known in practice are not generally either ferquent or oppressive.

A long time must elapse before any material change can take place in this principality. Although favored in physical circumstances, the prejudices of the people and perhaps still more so the despotism of the rule, will tend to keep them stationary and retard the progress of improvement, nor does it appear probable they will ever owe much to the introduction of foreign innovations however beneficial they might be. The fertility of its soil points it out for agricultural purposes but an immense space fit for the plough yet remains in its primitive state, this however is attributable to the scantiness of its Population, not to any want of exertion in those forming it, as its site between two countries requiring the supply of its chief production, holds out inducement to stimulate rural industry. The absence of roads which so necessarily gives activity to it and promotes melioration of every kind must be viewed as one of the existing obstacles to advancement.

Population \* and cultivation (the most prominent symptoms of improvement) have doubtless augmented within the last twenty-five years, but the increase has only been such as was a natural consequence of a respite from the scenes of war in which the coun-

\* On his escape from Perriapatam Veerajender only found six hundred of the indigenous inhabitants; they had been carried away or exterminated by the Sultan, numbers of the boys were employed in the zennanah having been capaciated for the office by previous castration, almost all who have been dragged from their homes by this unrelenting violence of Tippoo returned after the wars of 1792 and 1799.

try had been so long engaged there are not visible any striking indications of growing prosperity, although perhaps nothing immediately the reverse can be predicted.

Its resources collectively regarded may be said to be very limited and the population it supports on a still more confined scale, of small extent, with but little commerce to animate, and no manufactures to encourage exertion. We shall not be surprised at the low standard to which it must be reduced when compared in those particulars with the surrounding countries. The internal advantages it enjoys are not however inconsiderable; rich in the great fecundity of its soil, and in an industrious population, who addicted to husbandry, second by their labors its singular fertility it produces a plentiful supply of the first necessities of life and leaves its inhabitants a superfluity to purchase those commodities not native to the country, spices of such worth as subservient to the demand of commerce are amongst its chief productions, the more valuable as being of spontaneous growth.

Should the resources of this territory be considered as to the means it offers of subsisting a military force, or its power otherwise to aid\* our government in case of emergency, they perhaps may be found of more importance than would appear at first view; at least if the extraordinary energy displayed in its support during the wars in Mysore be taken as the criterion of its ability. Previous to those campaigns the means of the country were deteriorated, it having been a scene of constant devastation, yet the resources which it discovered may be considered as having materially assisted (particularly in the article of supply † and the exertion made in transporting the

\* The Elephants of Ceylon are preferred to those of the Peninsula, were those of the latter desired they could be procured from Wynaad and Coimbatore; did the above sources fail Codugu would afford abundance.

† The supplies it afforded to the Bombay army under General Abercromby in 1791 were Rice 6,360,000 lbs being at 1 lb per man a day equal to the subsistence of forty thousand men for a hundred and fifty nine days, Gram 560,000 lbs being at 10 lbs for each Horse per day, gram for two thousand eight hundred Horses for twenty days.



equipments of the army) in promoting the success of those wars; it may be presumed that the period of peace it has enjoyed may have increased its capabilities and enable it to lend a still more effectual support.

The military aid it could afford is of minor consideration. Its force is of too irregular a nature to be of any material service except within the limits of its own hills for which it will be seen it is fitted with peculiar aptitude.

Remarks on its resources. Of small statistical value, with few commercial facilities, and no manufacturing industry, the comparative mediocrity of its sources will be inferred, although with a good Government to direct them, they are capable of being enlarged, and this country might be rendered an almost inexhaustible granary. Except however in this particular, and the spices that it produces, it is at present of little commercial consequence and still less importance can be attached to the state and number of its population or general standard of improvement.

Of the Military Force of Codugu. The military force of Codugu is entirely feudal, it is a singular institution, and has the appearance of being coeval with a remote antiquity, there is no regular army, an active and warlike peasantry supply the place of disciplined troops, like the Nairs of the Peninsula and the Rajpoots and Seikhs of the more northern parts of India, each ryot is a soldier, not here merely in the defence of his possessions but in the constant practice of its duties. It has been seen that the aborigines hold their lands by a military tenure, and in return for the immunities which they enjoy, personal services to any extent that may be required become and are equally enjoined as admitted, one of the first and most imperious obligations. Those services are rendered in every instance with an alacrity and promptitude that knows no murmurs.

How organized. For the purpose of ensuring the necessary subordination, the institution of ranks is established amongst them they consist of *Serva Kaureegar*, *Kaureegar*, *Soobadar* and *Jemindar* the two latter command respectively

one hundred and ten men, the former any larger, but more indefinite body. Guards of every description are furnished by the ryots who continue on duty fifteen days, during which time they are maintained at the public expense, but receive no pay; at the termination of this period they are relieved by others, none remaining from home longer than the above specified time; all other public services that may be required are executed in a similar manner. Care is taken that the ryots shall be stationed in those places that are most convenient to their habitation and with a view to prevent interruptions being occasioned to their rural labors, and that only part of a family shall be absent at the same time on those duties. The arrangements necessary to give force and guide this system of routine, are by no means arbitrary, but strictly observed and ordered with a disciplined regularity. This alternate succession of the laborious employments of the peasant, and active pursuits of the soldier, cannot fail to create and maintain something of a martial spirit, and produce an union that must mainly contribute to the efficacy of exertion, and though the efforts of a body without discipline or organization be irregular in its operations, and not formed for offensive warfare except of a predatory kind, yet where every possessor of a field is armed for its protection it is eminently well calculated for a vigorous defensive system.

Character of the Military Force. The body of the people forming the military force, its character is drawn in theirs; inefficient as an army they are quite undirected by those forms of discipline which constitute the strength and permanency of military bodies, but their mode of life training them to a kind of concert, is an excellent school in which to educate an irregular soldiery and well calculated to call forth the exercise of those qualities adapted to the sphere in which alone they are likely to be called on to display them. These mountaineers have a considerable share of intrepidity and perseverance; stratagem enters largely into their system of tactics; in war they are remarkable for their predatory habits and their neighbours accuse them on those occasions of adding cruelty to pillage. Like the modern guerilla though they are unable to contend openly with regular troops they intercept their supplies, cut off their communications, and harass them by surprises, a species of warfare admirably adopted to second the natural difficulties that a hilly

country must present. An intimate knowledge of it, a strict obedience, and a singular devotion to their chief, accompanied by a remarkable attachment to their wilds, and an equal gallantry in defending them may in some measure perhaps compensate the want of military skill.

However desirable it might be to possess some distinct information, as to the amount of the military force of Codugu, circumstances prevented any information being obtained, from the authorities there, as to their number, indeed, enquiries from them on the subject would have been entirely useless; the few scattered intimations that exist regarding it may direct the judgment in coming to some probable conclusion as to its extent.\* Colonel Mahony whose testimony on this subject must be of great weight, states that the Rajah could on emergency assemble a body of eight thousand men, and observes this could be further increased by about half the number of peons variously armed. Twelve years have elapsed since the observation was made, and considerable increase may be supposed to have taken place during this period; but the appearance of the country would warrant the conclusion that this estimation had been too great. With insufficient data to guide opinion, it is hazardous to offer one on the subject, as it must be entirely on conjecture. If however the number capable of bearing arms be fixed at about six or seven thousand men it does not appear probable their amount will be much overrated; and such a body must be looked on of course as constituting the whole strength of the country. In this number are included two or three hundred peons natives of Mysore and the Ceded districts, who however they may add numerically, can contribute but little in point of efficiency.

\* It is already been seen that Codugu could at one time raise a body of twelve thousand men, in 1799 Tippoo had from fifteen hundred to two thousand Codugus in his service, they had been circumcised and were called Chalays, four thousand men joined Lord Cornwallis in 1792; we are not particularly told what numbers were brought forward in 1799 but frequent mention is made that more than five thousand having on different occasions acted with the British.

\* Those men receive five Rupees a month but are neither regularly paid or well clothed.

In estimating the military force of this little territory, the aborigines principally if not entirely have been taken into consideration, they only can be regarded as forming it. Various other castes that compose its population cannot be said to augment in any measure its military strength, being more conspicuous for the passive virtues which mark the character of the Hindu of the peninsula, than distinguished by the more active qualities for which these mountaineers are remarkable.

The bow and arrow now almost abandoned, have given place to fire arms, those in common use are matchlocks of native fabrication, rude in point of workmanship and though comparatively imperfect are by no means inefficient instruments. The barrel is of a disproportionate length and the bore small. They however carry a considerable distance and with much accuracy. The combustible bark of the Gubbula tree affords excellent matches, and they are well supplied with gun powder, a coarse kind being manufactured in the country. The proportion of European muskets to be found amongst them are inconsiderable, there may be about twenty or thirty cannon\* of different calibres, not however much to be dreaded, as there are few individuals if any, capable of managing them. The number of arms of different kinds are considerable and should any event render it necessary to call out the strength of the country, there appears little doubt, abundance of them could be supplied.

When fully accoutred the Codugu appears a moving armoury; to the matchlock is added a large knife or short sword, which, as each individual must depend on his own personal exertions for security he is skilful in the use of. This weapon invariably forms a part of the dress of every Codugu, who may be said to plough his field with his sword by his side. It has no sheath and fixes in the tourunuy or belt by a slight spring from which it is easily disengaged. The prevalence of fire arms however renders this weapon more formidable in appearance

\* General Abercromby during his retreat from Seringapatam in 1791 was obliged to abandon nearly the whole of his artillery; the late Rajah collected in the neighbourhood of Periapatam and on the Road to the Heggulla ghaut eighteen, six twelve, twelve six Pounders, these Guns are now at Muddukayray three and Nakunaad.

than reality, as in most instances, there would not be an opportunity of using it, in addition to these arms a small knife is worn in front under the sash, it is however more intended for domestic than offensive purposes and stands the wearer in as many uses as Hudibras's little dagger.

Observation of the  
Military strength of  
this Principality.

The reign of Hyder and his son developed in some measure the power of this little state, and its history during that period may afford no bad criterion by which to estimate it. Holding no place in the scale of political importance, in a military point of view it owes the little consequence it may possess to its geographic site, and its strength to the woody defiles that guard the approach to it; but it is every way too feeble for the exertion of its power of aggression under any circumstances, to be an object of much solicitude to its neighbours. The woods, offering a place for concealment and giving

Offensive.

a safety in flight that could not be hoped for from resistance, necessarily inspire these mountaineers with a confidence that enables them at once to surprise securely and to elude pursuit; their hostility would be an evil, but though daring, as freebooters, they are incapable of making any permanent acquisition, their incursions though sufficiently destructive, are short and predatory, as a body they cease to be formidable when they emerge from the security of their forests.

Defensive advantages  
enjoyed in this  
particular.

With regard to the attacks of foreign enemies, Codugu derives great security from its situation and though its means are limited for purposes of ambition they are ample for those of defence. The frontier is strong throughout its whole extent; on the west and south a mountainous wall forbids approach; on the east and north extensive forests guard it from invasion; the above remarks however are referable only to Codugu proper, as Yailsowra and the districts below the ghauts present few obstacles that could not easily be surmounted, in the interior the nature of the country opposes considerable impediments to the approach of a military force. Covered with hills irregular in their direction and unequal in their height each new ridge offers a post that can be disputed and where not protected with hills it is overgrown with forest. In such a country, supplies will be easily intercepted,

the movements of regular troops greatly embarrassed, and extensive operations carried on with difficulty. A people familiarized with arms possessing a tract strong and tenable in itself, will have the power of making a formidable resistance, the absence of large towns as relieving them from the necessity of dissipating their strength in the defence of them, must confer many advantages when engaged in warfare, and the country is only fitted for that irregular species of it in which the benefits of discipline are considerably lessened. Cavalry are almost entirely useless, and artillery only of the smallest calibre could be carried with expedition. The character of the roads would render the transport of larger guns scarcely practicable.

Codugu cannot be considered entirely conquered when penetrated. From the absence of a regular military force and fortifications, a country of the nature that has been just described, might perhaps be over-run, but must still be difficult to be retained, this has in some measure been proved in the occupation of it by Hyder and Tippoo, who held it by the same tenure they had acquired it, the Sword.

Codugu does not  
hold out much tempta-  
tions to conquest.

This mountainous principality holds out an insufficient temptation to repay the expense of conquest which under most circumstances it would be more difficult to make, than advantageous to retain. Its position as giving an easy access into Canara is of some importance, but while the fidelity of the Chief can be depended upon, the value of such a peasantry holding possession of such a tract will be evident. This little territory is not in the line which in all probability circumstances would ever render necessary for our own defence to occupy. Could its reduction for a moment be contemplated, there is no reason to suppose from facts that the object if desired could not be accomplished. Veerajender owed his success to the distracted state of Mysore. The contest between the Chief and the Sovereign must always be unequal, and had events left Tippoo at liberty to pursue his ancient enmities, the strength of the country and spirit of the inhabitants could but have retarded its eventual fate.

Its assailable points.

The various irruptions into Codugu have taken place on the eastern border, it has several



times been entered by the Karmaund road. The choice was injudicious, as the distance from the central and latter inhabited parts is great and the country holds out no advantages to an invading force. The Seedasweer road is liable to similar objections. Tippoo penetrated several times by this communication, also by Yailsowra and Oolaygooly on the more northern part of the eastern frontier; the latter passage, was the best chosen, as giving a ready access to the capital, which would appear the most desirable point first to occupy. It is in some measure a key to the rest of the country. Once possessed, most of the principal roads would be partly commanded and the various stockades and barriers on them would be taken in reverse. An inspection of the Map of Roads will shew those that offer the most direct route; where all are difficult the shortest will be desirable. That from the Cunavi (or Ramapoor) seems to combine many advantages. The Cauvary in the dry season—the only time when an enterprize of this kind could be attempted—can be easily passed in the vicinity of this village; from the ford to the point which it is desirable to occupy, the space is only twenty miles, a distance that could be accomplished in the course of a night and the early part of the road is tolerable. The obstacles which the latter portion opposes once overcome, and the Table land upon which Muddukayray stands surmounted, the chief difficulties would be conquered, as the fort, it has been seen, is not calculated to make any protracted resistance. In fine the powers of art and discipline must always overcome the

exertion of irregular courage, however seconded by physical advantages, and it did not require the experience of a late war in a country of still more military difficulty than Codugu,\* to prove, that however new the situation, and novel the obstacles that oppose themselves, the well directed efforts of superior skill must surmount them.

Political situation. Codugu cannot, in the strict interpretation of the word, be considered independant, as though not submitting to the superior jurisdiction of the laws and magistrates of the English Government, it can neither treat or make wars or alliances with other states. It may be considered as a principality dependant on, and subject to, the superior power and protection of the British.

\* Nepaul.

The first connection took place in 1790, when Veerajender entered into a treaty dictated by mutual interests with the President at Tellicherry: it stipulated (Vide appendix I) "That in the event of a peace with the Sultan, the safety and honor of the Codugu chief should be consulted"; while he on his part engaged to promote the cause of the English as far as possible. The terms on both sides were faithfully observed and in the peace concluded by Lord Cornwallis with Tipoo in 1792 that nobleman made the independence and security of Veerajender a *sine qua non*.

A second treaty (Vide appendix II) was entered into between this Prince and General Abercromby in March 1793, by which the former bound himself to pay a tribute of twenty four thousand Rupees yearly to the English Government. Such was the nature of the connection between Codugu and the British till April 1799, (Vide appendix III) when, as an acknowledgment of the important services its Prince had rendered during the last Mysore War, the Government ceded a large tract of territory in Canara\* lying contiguous to his own possessions, having previously released him from the obligation of paying the tribute which it has been seen he agreed to discharge. In substitution of it an elephant is annually presented as an admission of the paramount authority of the British.

The Chief of the Principality entirely independent within his own limits

Within his own limits the Prince of Codugu enjoys all the dignity and privilege that belonged to his ancestors, nor is he checked in his power by the fear of any superior control.

Intercourse with the neighbouring states.

The ancient feuds and jealousies of the Mysore and Codugu families seems to have been transmitted to their present representatives, nor do the vicissitudes both have undergone appear in any measure to have diminished them. Fortunately, those turbulent times are past when the subjects of each would have been

\* In 1804

necessitated to take an active part in the personal enmities of their masters now attended by less mischievous consequences; there is no intercourse whatever between the two Princes.

Community of interests with the British. Its external relations are by no means intricate; it can have but one interest, and that must be in community with the British. Protected by a state raised above the temptation of such a conquest, Codugu is likely long to remain under the dominion of its present master: maintained as an independant principality it must always look to the British for support, and in the supremacy of their authority see the best security for the permanence of its own. If great benefits can secure its gratitude, and experience of their inviolable faith command its attachment, both should confidently be expected!

## HISTORY.

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The following sketch of the history of this principality is chiefly taken from that written by the late Rajah Veerajender. Equally historian as soldier he has added his name to the list of royal authors, and written as he states for the use of posterity Prefatory Remarks. an account of transactions in Codugu from the year Anjerea 4734 or Anno Domini 1632, having inspected such records as the archives were found to contain.

This work is not without considerable interest: the events which it details characterizes the Historian; and though the warlike exploits it narrates are unimportant in themselves, they must be considered valuable in the view they afford of the character by which these mountaineers are distinguished.

The history of a country, being only interesting in proportion to its extent or influence on its neighbour, that of Codugu would be an object of but little consequence did not the part which it has acted on the theatre of events entitle it to some share of consideration. In the picture of affairs, the adventures of its Chief forms a striking object, one at least that may for a moment observe and fix attention: and although the history of the wars in Codugu forms a mere episode to those of Mysore, they will perhaps share in the interest which an account of those times must always carry with it.

The ancient annals of this principality are Ancient Anna's. involved in fable, indeed no very authentic records could be expected from so rude a people. It is a prevalent belief that the mountainous tract, known under the denomination of Codugu proper, was originally taken possession of

by one of the five sons of Pandoo;\* he enjoys the reputation of having founded this little state, for to him is attributed the first permanent settlement of the country, which before his arrival must have been an uninhabited wild, as during his residence he is represented as having populated it. This would appear to have been the object and end of his sovereignty, for on its accomplishment he departed and never again returned; such is the brief history that has been handed down through the defective medium of tradition.

Although there are reasons for believing Codugu to have been inhabited at a much earlier period than the other mountainous tracts which bound it at both extremities, in no place does there appear ever to have been any approach to those architectural monuments, the remains of which record the ancient opulence and splendour that reigned throughout the open plains of Mysore and the Carnatic; the religious edifices are of the rudest form and most perishable materials, nor are there any vestiges that could ensure a belief that they ever made nearer approaches to magnificence.

Or Brahminical Power.

Braminical power, the traces of which exist to such an extent in most Hindu states, appears to have been nearly unknown amongst these mountains, and to this circumstance perhaps may be attributed the absence of those religious buildings which, while they bespeak the predominant influence of the hierarchy, may certainly be adduced as arguments in support of former civilization and prosperity.

Inconsiderable in extent and of obscure fame, we will not be surprised at the cloud which overhangs its early history. It may be presumed that the inhabitants of these mountains must have long remained in the rudest state of barbarism: shut in by their hills from any extended commerce with their neighbours, their secluded situation presented barriers to the progress of advancement, at least the absence of any thing like monuments of antiquity or inscriptions is an indication that Codugu never could have been the seat of civilization, science, or learning.

\* The Hindus are fond of ascribing every monument whose founder is unknown, to the five Brothers; numerous unshaken stones called by the Natives Paucha Pandoo Para (in other places known as Pandoo Cooly's) are met with.

1585.

Whatever may have been its former situation nothing authentic is known of it till the latter end of the sixteenth century, when Ferishta casually mentions it, as governed by its own Princes. How long anterior to this period it may have constituted a separate power must be left to conjecture as the few records that appeared to have escaped the devastating fanaticisms of Tippoo have not assisted in illustrating this point; it would not however seem likely that its dependance had been established at an era much anterior to this period, for there is every appearance of probability in the supposition that governed by a zemindar or officer dependant on the court of Veejianuggur, he may like the numerous petty chiefs who aimed at independent authority during the decline of that dynasty, have taken advantage of the anarchy which preceded its total eclipse (in 1646) and thrown off his allegiance.

Probable period when it became independent.

The decline of this once flourishing kingdom whose empire extended from the Kristna to Cape Comorin embracing within it the whole of the Peninsula is to be traced to the battle of Tullioota in 1534; and from this epoch may be dated with some appearance of certainty the rise of this little principality.

Some mixture of fable has in all countries been supposed to reflect a becoming dignity on the origin of the great. The present family of Codugu derives theirs from a remote source, and trace it from the shores of the Persian Gulf through the long period of seven centuries: their lineage is deduced from an adventurous chieftain who migrating from Dwarka\* secured the undisturbed possession of

Lineage of the present Family.

Codugu. What course of events led his steps towards this mountainous tract, or by what means he superceded the power of the numerous petty chiefs who are said to have divided it amongst them, are questions beyond the reach of conjecture: the distance of the epoch forbids investigation and the fact may now be supposed to guarantee itself.

\* Dwarka famous in Hindu fable as the favorite abode of Krishna. It is reckoned as one of the five inestimable blessings which in the Puranas, Cutch is celebrated as containing.



1632.  
First Prince of  
Cotang whose name  
has survived obli-  
vion.

about the year 1632 when he resided at Hahlayray, but subsequently  
1861. tempted perhaps by its neighbourhood and strength,  
transferred the seat of authority to Muddakayray.

At this period the bounds of the principality would appear to  
have been confined within the limits of Codugu  
proper, but the fertile districts of Bettadipoor and  
Origin and extent  
of the Principality. Periapatan formed a little state ruled by Nunja-  
raj, who allied by ties of interest and consanguinity to the Codugu  
Prince, materially increased his power and influence. The records  
are silent as to the events of Moodaraja's reign; it was however  
of considerable length embracing a period of forty-  
1686. nine years. On his death he was succeeded by  
Dodda Veerappa the eldest of three sons.

The warlike spirit of this prince was soon called into action by  
the aggressions of his powerful neighbour; Periapatan the princi-  
pal city belonging to Nunjaraj being attacked by Immadi the Rajah  
of Mysore, whom, the subjects of the former Prince either wearied out  
by his oppressions or instigated by the intrigues of his enemies, had  
invited to rule over them. Nunjaraj, perceiving the dangers by which

he was threatened, implored the assistance of the  
Periapatan taken  
by the Rajah of Mysore. Codugu Prince, who, espousing his cause, marched  
immediately to support him, but had the mor-  
tification of learning on reaching Selasweer, that Periapatan had  
fallen, and Veerajiah the son of Nunjaraj who had been intrusted  
with the command of the capital, seeing his situation desperate, had  
gallantly fallen in its defence, having previously in compliance with  
the sanguinary dictates of honor, put to death his wives and chil-  
dren to preserve them from pollution.

Encouraged by such success Immadi it would  
appear, meditated more important conquests as we  
find him a few years subsequent to this event  
turning his arms against Codugu. The Mysore force had penetrated

And is defeated.

but a short way beyond Bellicor, when they were  
met by Dodda Veerappa; an engagement ensu-  
ed\* in which the former was defeated with the  
loss of fifteen thousand men and seventy-seven Officers.†

The Codugu leader, who could only purchase tranquility at the  
expence of any conquests, hastened immediately after this event to  
oppose the Cotangaddy Rajah, who, at the head of four or five thou-  
sand Nairs, had ascended the ghauts with hostile intentions. This  
inroad seems to have arisen partly from the predatory disposition of  
that chief and partly at the suggestions of a Codugu officer who led  
him to expect an easy conquest of the southern districts: the motives  
of this treacherous conduct are not distinctly stated. He failed  
however, in realizing his promises of assistance and that embarrassed  
and retarded the advance of the Nair force who intrenching  
itself at the head of the Thomara ghaut, waited with anxiety  
the result of the Mysore invasion as that was to direct their future  
movements. Dodda Veerappa had previously detached a body  
of fifteen hundred men in advance, and the decisive victory he had  
gained soon enabled him to follow with a larger force. The fortifica-

Dodda Veerap-  
pa's successes a-  
gainst the Nairs.

1716.

tions of the Nairs were insufficient to shelter  
them from the spirited attack made by the Codu-  
gus, who, after a considerable resistance, com-  
pletely defeated them, their chief being numbered  
amongst the slain.

The variety of petty independent states into which the country  
at this time was parcelled out, appears to have been involved in a  
constant succession of feuds and struggles and, generally in a state  
of actual war, or suspended hostility; the little principality of Belloor  
situated on the confines of Mysore and Codugu experienced at this  
time the rapacity of its turbulent neighbours: the prince of the for-  
mer kingdom, tempted by its weakness resolved on its destruction;  
and Dodda Veerappa, whose idea of expediency appears not to have  
been more susceptible of scruples, conceiving this a favorable moment

\* In the plan Puttapooree, I was unable to ascertain the spot.

† The account of the number slain may be considered as rather apocryphal  
the history of the event however is recorded on a rude monument over Ham-  
papoor.

to partake in the spoliation of his neighbour, seized on Yailsowra part of the domain of the unfortunate Naik. The Mysore Rajah,

having occupied most of the country, demanded that district as a part of its territory: but little disposed to the doctrine of restoration, the Codugu Chief declined compliance, and all disputes being terminated by the sword a predatory warfare ensued, which however after a short time ended in a compromise; Codugu retaining the district in dispute, but Mysore receiving a portion of the revenue arising from it.

Dodda Veerappa had enjoyed but a short repose when the Rajah of Cheerikul implored his aid against the arms of Somasekera naik

Aids the Rajah \*Prince of Bednore who had already made rapid of Cheerikul. strides towards the conquest of his territory. The

Codugu Chief exerted his influence to avert his impending fate: the Naik however alleged his losses in men and treasure and appeared determined against yielding to any solicitations. Means of persuasion more efficacious were used and his resolution seems to have been quite overcome by the alluring offer of eighteen lacs of Rupees in consideration of which, on Dodda Veerappa's becoming security he evacuated the country and retreated to Soobramuhni. A portion of the sum had already been given, but the reimbursement of the remainder appearing unnecessarily slow, Dodda Veerappa accompanied his next demand of it with a force of five thousand men as the means of ensuring a more strict observance of the convention. Payment was delayed however under various pretences for some time longer, during which the Cheerikul Prince took measures for cutting off the body of Codugus sent to enforce it: intelligence of this design

reaching the officer who commanded them, he His Ingratitude. marched directly to Cannanore, defeating a body of Cheerikul troops who opposed his passage. We

are not told what prevented Dodda Veerappa, on other occasions so prompt to a military decision, from punishing such perfidious conduct. It does not however appear he had recourse to arms on an occasion so justly calling for his resentment, and the violated faith of his treacherous ally seems to have passed unchastised.

\* This Prince is stated to have dug a ditch and made gateways all round his frontier, there are now no remains of either.

1734.

This appears to have been the last public act of Dodda Veerappa. Throughout a long and vigorous reign he evinced an unconquerable spirit, and though surrounded by powerful neighbours, neither the number nor strength of his enemies seem to relax his courage or damp his enterprize. He enlarged his territories by the conquest of Yailsowra, and purchase of Sooleeay from the Naik of Bednore, who likewise presented him with the small district of Umr as a mark of his attachment.\*

Death of Dodda Veerappa.

Is succeeded by his grandson.

Chikka Veerappa assumed authority on the death of his grandfather; his early years were clouded by misfortunes the greatest portion of them having been passed in confinement. Apparajah the only son of the late Prince, incurring the suspicion of having destroyed his wife at the instigation of a favorite mistress, had been thrown into prison where he languished for twelve years; at the end of which period, dying, his son, who had shared his misfortunes, was released, and like most oriental despots, quitted a prison to seat himself on a throne.

1762.

From the silence observed with regard to the transactions of Chikka Veerappa's reign, we may conclude the early part of it was not disturbed by either war or faction; but the restless ambition of an adventurer, had succeeded to the peaceful and indolent rule of a Hindu Prince, and Mysore, now under the vigorous Government of Hyder, threatened destruction to the smaller states in its vicinity. The Nawaub seems

First interference of Hyder in the affairs of Codugu.

early to have turned his thoughts towards Codugu and as a preliminary, urged the claim on the Yailsowra District, which it has been seen was relinquished by a former Government. Chikka Veerappa unwilling to provoke so powerful an opponent yielded to the demand,—but Hyder not satisfied with his concessions and fertile

\* Or rather presented it to the Pagoda at Tulla Canvey Dodda Veerappa "having represented, that producing abundance of coconuts so necessary to the deity of that Temple, it could not fail of being a most acceptable offering."

1765. in expedients appears soon to have found a pretext for breaking with the Prince, as we find His invasion of it. in the year subsequent to this transaction, his troops under Fazul Ulla Khan invading this principality; they penetrated as far as Oolooally but were compelled to retire. A negotiation was then opened in which the Khan offered on the part of his master to give up Oochingy, and some parts of the Mahraj Droog on the payment of three hundred thousand pagodas, and a durable peace was to follow on assent to those proposals. We are not acquainted with the circumstance that led the negotiation to take this turn. The Codugu Prince, however acceded to them, and on the faith of the most solemn assurances paid a portion of the sum, and sent hostages for the remainder; the stipulations on the part of the Mahomedan commander were as yet unexecuted when Chikka Veerappa died. Of a weak and delicate habit from the long confinement of his youth, he seems not to have inherited either the mental or personal qualifications of his predecessor: dying without issue, the direct line of Dodda Veerappa became extinct.

Moodya Rajah the cousin of the last Prince succeeded to his authority and immediately demanded the execution of the treaty, but Hyder under various pretexts, eluded its fulfilment. Upwards of a year was occupied in fruitless negotiation, but there being no longer any hopes of an amicable arrangement, war was again renewed. Linga Rajah the younger brother of the reigning Prince successfully attacked Fyzul Ulla Khan in Yailsowra; this officer attempted to retire on Mangalore by the Bissly Ghaut, but his active opponent having previously reached the pass, posted himself in it, and completely defeated him; his troops having abandoned their artillery and ammunition fled with precipitancy.

Tired of so unprofitable a warfare, and doubtless intending at some more favorable period to pursue his designs, Hyder again tried with greater sincerity the channel of negotiation, he proposed as the cement of

Accession of his cousin.  
Defeated the Mysore troops.  
Hyder cedes Punjee and Bullaree.

future amity to give up the Mangunnies of Bullaree and Punjee in lieu of the districts mentioned in the former treaty; this arrangement was acceded to and hostilities ceased.

Immediately subsequent to this event, Moodya Rajah died after a short and turbulent reign, leaving his country a prey to Civil dissensions that led the way to foreign subjection. The Codugu family were divided into two branches, that of Hahlayri and Hooroomelay, designations taken from their place of residence; on the demise of the late Chief, Mullya Rajah of the latter line disputed the succession of his son, and succeeded in placing his own in authority. Linga Rajah espousing the cause of his nephew Apparajah, and unable to enforce his claims fled, with him to seek the powerful aid of Hyder, who at this period exercised supreme control in Mysore.

1771. The Nawaub would appear to have anxiously desired the acquisition of this principality, and in aiming at its conquest was perhaps influenced less by the ambition of dominion than as giving a security to what he previously held; its possessions must have been regarded as desirable from its situation more than valuable as an extension of Territory, but however, he may have rejoiced at the opportunity that now offered of his becoming a party in the dissensions of the Codugu family. The irruption of Trinback Row Mama which occurred at this juncture gave full employment to his arms, and obliged him reluctantly to postpone any attempts at improving a circumstance so congenial to his designs.

It is unnecessary to trace the events that followed the Mahratta invasion. Sixty thousand horse carried destruction in their route. Hyder's best troops were annihilated, himself narrowly escaping, but attended by his usual good fortune, he surmounted all the dangers that encompassed him. Released from them, he again turned his thoughts towards Codugu; the rapine and desolation that always accompany a Mahratta army had been followed by a famine, and much difficulty being experienced in subsisting the troops, Lingah Raja suggested, that the rich harvest of Codugu would remedy so pressing an evil.

Hyder's view on Codugu.  
Mahratta invasion of Mysore.



The Nawaub's scruples were not of a nature to require much casuistry in removing; operations in consequence were immediately commenced, and a large force entered that principality by the Arculode Frontier, but were repulsed with loss. Intrigue, however, removed the obstacles which force could not overcome; the seeds

1773. of discord were sown amongst the adherents of the reigning Prince, and the Mysore troops on again passing the Frontier by Bellioor, were joined by a large body of Codugus and proceeded to the capital without meeting any serious opposition. Davappa, who had now reigned two years gave up the contest and retired with precipitation into Wynaad, but the fugitive Prince meeting there an inhospitable reception, fled, accompanied only by four attendants to Hurrial, where he was seized and subsequently carried to Serin-gapatam; no further account is given of him, but it is more than probable he shared the same fate as his family, whom Hyder by a gratuitous act of barbarity is stated to have put to death.

He places the legitimate heir in authority

The Nawaub now demanded a return for his important assistance; and his bill of services, it must be admitted, was not immoderate: the resources of the country being exhausted, he consented to receive a yearly tribute of twenty four thousand Rupees, and sanctioned on this occasion the Codugu Family to take possession of a part of Wynaad, said to have been wrested from them at some remote period. Three thousand Codugus were immediately dispatched to take possession of the districts in question.

1775. Appajee Rajah enjoyed but a short time the power which after so many vicissitudes he had at length acquired, he died the year subsequent to his accession and was succeeded by Linga Rajah who, superceding the claims of the three sons left by his nephew, took upon himself supreme control.

Hyder would appear to have repented the moderation, which had led him to be satisfied with the small tribute we have seen he

imposed; as a few months subsequently, we find he required and obtained a constrained assent to the cession of Sooleeay, Umr, Bullaree Punjee and Yailsowra,\* thus again reducing the principality within its ancient limits, if we except the precarious prepossession of the districts in Wynaad. The force left to occupy had now held them four years, when they were obliged to retire; Linga Rajah however, attempted to recover them and for this purpose sent a body of two thousand men headed by the two sons of the late Chief. This force was surprized and defeated, a fourth part of the number killed, one the Princes being amongst the slain, and the other taken prisoner was soon after put to death.

Hyder assumes some valuable districts belonging to Codugu.

1778. Defeat of the Codugus in Wynaad.

1779. Death of Linga Rajah. The life of Linga Rajah terminated shortly subsequent to this event, he died at Madeapoor after a reign of four years, and may be considered as the founder of the present family; but the circumstances that smoothed the way to his elevation have been suppressed.

Hyder assumes entire possession of the principality. Veerajender on the death of his father being only about sixteen years of age, was too young to take on himself the management of the possessions which devolved to him. Hyder conceiving it a favorable moment to complete the spoliation he had so successfully begun, assumed entire possession of that portion of the country that yet remained, under the pretence, however, of being guardian to its Prince: having placed it under the control of one of his officers he marched for the Carnatic to oppose the British army under Sir Eyre Coote. Those mountaineers, but ill-satisfied with the authority that had been forced on them, determined to resist such a domination, and no longer restrained by the hand that imposed it, threw off the yoke. In arms they gained possession of the different fortified places and expelled the Mysore

\* This circumstance is not mentioned in the History. Veerajender like most Asiatic Historians would seem alone to preserve the records of his triumphs.

Confinement of  
Veerajender.

troops. On the first symptom of revolt, the young Rajah together with his family were removed to Gonoor a strong fortress in the District of Maharaj Droog.

Death of the Nawab.

The death of Hyder which occurred at this juncture prepared the way for still more sanguinary contests. Tippoo from character and situation was their most formidable enemy; with his fathers' possessions, he appears to have inherited the determination of adding Codugu to them. His first act

1783.

was to remove the captive family to Periapatam,

1784.

and on the peace of Mangalore he sent an army into Codugu; but, softened perhaps by his recent successes,\* does not at this period seem to have

Tippoo offers amnesty to those turbulent mountaineers.

entered on the schemes of extermination which he subsequently pursued with such severity, as we find him in the same year offering a general amnesty to the inhabitants: but the allegiance of

those mountaineers was not to be purchased by such favors. Mussulman dominion, seems to have bound them more strongly to their

They again take up arms.

Native Princes, and not deterred by the apprehension of incurring the vengeance of Tippoo, he had scarcely pronounced his forgiveness when

1785.

they again took up arms in the same cause and re-possessioned themselves of their native hills.

The Sultan sends an army into Codugu.

On learning this revolt, the Sultan dispatched a body of fifteen-thousand men under Ignola Udee to quiet them; it had only advanced as far as Oolagooly when it was encountered by a body of four or five thousand Codugus, who after a sharp encounter forced them to retire with the loss of their baggage. The fate of this detachment induced Tippoo to take the command in person, and having added to their number and stimulated their courage, he appears to have led them on with more success, as we find him overcoming all opposition and reaching the capital with but little loss. Always more likely however, to remember the injury rather than the provocation

\* The defeat of the unfortunate detachment under General Matthews.

His perfidy.

1786.

he no longer pursued conciliatory measures. Under the pretence of treating with, he assembled most of the Codugus who, in violation of the most sacred promises, were with their families seized, carried into captivity and (ever alive to the necessity of adding to the numbers of the faithful) immediately circumcised. This step was a prelude to greater severities, the destruction of the remaining inhabitants was pursued with relentless rigour. They were at length declared to have been extirpated and the slaves and arable lands divided amongst Mahomedan cultivators, who removed from the neighbouring countries to occupy them. The decree issued on this occasion would

Determines on the extirpation of its inhabitants.

lead to a belief that destruction, urged at once by ambition and religious zeal, removed the ordinary checks to the perpetration of crime. It sets forth,

"The country is given to you in Jaghire, improve it, and be happy; the extermination of those mountaineers being determined on, you are required as an imperious duty to search for and slay all who may have escaped our just vengeance, their wives and children will become your property." This edict so characteristic, of the author closes by ordering that "the standard of Islam be continually exalted."

His edict on the occasion.

1788.

Escape of Veerajender from Perriapatam

Such was the state of affairs when Veerajender, accompanied in his flight by his wife and two brothers the principal survivors of the Codugu family, after a confinement of six years, aided by some of his faithful adherents, effected his escape from Perriapatam; he had however, only changed one prison for another.

Falls in the hands of the Cotangoody Rajah or Coliote.

Seduced by the friendly professions of the Coliote Rajah, he incautiously put himself in the power of that Prince, who, awakening the remembrance of ancient animosities, availed himself of his misfortunes, and after detaining him a prisoner for some time, obliged him as an atonement for the death of the Nair Prince his ancestor, whom we have seen was slain at the Thomara Ghaut, to cede the site of a fort at that place, as also to give up for ever three valuable and extensive districts to the Temple of Montana. Complying with the pressure of circumstances, Veerajender, having purchased his

release by submitting to these terms, sought refuge amongst the few of his old subjects who had as yet escaped the sword. Veera Verma a short time subsequent to this transaction proceeded to occupy his new acquisitions; but the Codugu Chief, now aided by some of his own followers, declined compliance with a convention exacted under such perfidious circumstances. More alarmed by the number of his followers, than convinced by the force of his arguments, the Nair Prince, not only admitted the injustice of his demand, but relinquished his claims to certain tracts that had long been an object of discussion between the two principalities.

Singular attachment of those mountaineers to their chief. The attachment of these mountaineers to their ancient government was, we have seen, evinced by constant insurrections, sometimes without a concurrence of measures or even a principal to direct them; attached to it by the joint influence of prejudice and habit, they have not considered much as to the value of the object, and though by no means of the mildest character they have had no disposition to change it for an alien rule, still less the harsh and intolerant way of Mahomedans. The presence of their own Prince holding out the prospect of escape from such a dominion, he was hailed with loyalty, and the spirit of resistance animated with increased vigour. This active and enterprising chief would appear to have seconded the exertion of his adherents with a perseverance and spirit worthy their fidelity, as we find him attacking the Mysore Troops everywhere with success: having partially expelled

His old subjects flock to his standard. them, he collected the scattered remains of his old subjects and restored them to their ancient possessions and immunities. Always near the point of action, he proceeded to Sadasweer an important post on the frontier, from whence he had ravaged with impunity the open country in its vicinity. The daring spirit, that might have deserved the esteem,

Tippoo determines on their reduction. only provoked the rage of the Sultan. Irritated by these incursions, Tippoo determined on a retribution, which was no way likely to fall short of the provocation. He sent an army aided by a body of Nairs from Cherikul headed by Golan Alli for the purpose of exterminating a race he found it so difficult to conquer, they penetrated Codugu by the Sadasweer pass and at first

His troops though inadequate to the conquest are sufficient to desolate the country.

were opposed with success, but a want of ammunition on the part of the Codugus obliged them to retire. Gholam Ali advanced to Nakunaad, having previously dispatched his Nair allies to seize on the whole of their families, being however intercepted in the execution of this plan they sustained a defeat and fled with precipitation; the Musselman general more ambitious perhaps of plunder than glory, avoided an engagement, but proceeded to the pillage of the country with every inventive circumstance which rapine and cruelty could suggest.

1789.

At this period the states of Malliallum, always controlled with difficulty, evinced symptoms of revolt. Anxious for the safety of those valuable provinces the Sultan ordered Golan Alli to restore tranquility. This Officer marched with his army by the Kodunthurra ghaut, but the passage of it was not effected without a vigorous opposition. This force was followed by another under Mahomed Reza, who pursuing the route through Codugu, halted at the top of the Heggulla pass, which had been previously occupied by those indefatigable mountaineers. The attempt to force a passage was warmly resisted, and a French officer who had headed the advance, together with eight hundred men were killed, and half that number wounded. The plunder obtained on this occasion afforded a seasonable supply of ammunition, and this success was followed by the retreat of Mallapanaik, a Mysore officer, (advancing in support of Mahomed Reza,) who fled in the night to Perriapatam abandoning his baggage; these successive repulses, threatening the safety of the few posts which Tippoo yet held in Codugu, he made an attempt to succour them, but succeeded only with regard to Kooshalnuggur, being unable to afford but a partial relief to Muddukaray; the supplies destined for the other places were intercepted.

Gollam Alli would seem to have been unsuccessful in tranquilizing the provinces of Malliallum, as about this time the Sultan, at the head of a large army, marched in person for the purpose of more effectually restoring order in them. Determined however, on retrieving

his losses in Codugu, he appointed his brother-in-law Bhurran-oo-deen, aided by Sheik Uncer and Syed Adam to the command of a considerable body of troops, which were divided into three detachments;

He delegates to his brother-in-law the task of chastizing the Codugus. to them was delegated the task of taking signal vengeance on those turbulent mountaineers, and having fully recruited the different garrisoned posts to join their master in Malliallum. It will

not be necessary to repeat the uniform detail of devastation and slaughter that accompanied the crusades of the Sultan; the fate of the Cherikul Rajah, may serve as a specimen of them. Attempting to escape the resentment of this despot, he was closely pursued, and aware of the clemency that was to be expected, put a period to his existence, his body being found was carried to Tippoo, who as a warning to the unwary, ordered it to be ignominiously suspended from a tree, it being previously dragged round his army.

Early acquainted with the destination of Bhurran-oo-deen's\* force, Veerajender determined to anticipate his design by storming the different posts, which it was his intention to relieve, a resolution justified by success; placing himself at the head of fifteen hundred Codugus, he marched against Kooshallnuggur, a fort on the banks of the Cauvery, a sally from it checked his advance guard, but coming up with the main body to their support, after an obstinate encounter he captured the place, having followed his enemy as they fled in at the gate. This garrison endeavoured to escape by swimming the river, but was pursued with such success, that five out of seven hundred were killed; the fortification being destroyed, and the plunder equally divided amongst his followers, he prepared for new exploits, and in a short time appeared in front of the fortified post of Baypunaad; the garrison assuming the merit of an early surrender, were treated with liberality, and safely conducted beyond the

Bhurran-oo-deen invades the principality. frontier. Bhurran-oo-deen with plenary power to extirpate the Codugus was preparing to carry his master's orders into effect, when he learnt the fate

\* The brother-in-law of the Sultan.

of the two posts whose capture has just been related; anxious to save the remainder, he hastened to their relief. The principal detachment headed by himself, penetrated by the Sedasweer pass whilst Syed Ahmud entered by Arculgoode, and Sheik Uncer pursued the route by Bauleelah, where the woody defiles, he hoped, would conceal his approach.

The adventures of this enterprising chieftain appear borrowed from the annals of romance; the number of his enemies held no place in his calculations, each new difficulty tending an additional impulse to his courage: and he seems to have enjoyed the talent of imparting a share of his ardour and spirit to his followers. Those formidable invaders had scarcely

passed the frontier when they found themselves vigorously resisted. The detachment under Sheik Uncer first encountered, was repulsed with a loss of five hundred men, the Codugus, however, too much weakened effectually to resist the Moslem commander, slowly retired before him, but on reaching Baghamundla, the obstinate conflicts in which he had been engaged so exhausted his numbers, that having afforded an insufficient relief to the garrison at that place, he (Bhurran-oo-deen) proceeded to the lower districts for the purpose of recruiting his shattered force; his unwearied opponents did not allow him to retire unmolested, but on returning, his overthrow was still more complete, being attacked in the middle of the pass, he was forced to abandon half his convoy as the only means of saving the remainder. Unable effectually to relieve Baghamundla, he left it to the fate that awaited it, and prepared to join the Sultan in Mulliallum—with this design he proceeded towards the Heggulla ghaut, but his retreat was so completely cut off in this direction, that he,

was necessitated to fall back on Seringapatam. And eventually being severely harrassed during the whole of his march. The progress of the other two detachments had been marked by various success, panic struck at the fate of the main body their commanders hastily withdrew. The capture of Baghamundla rapidly followed these events. This fort of some strength situated on the banks of the Cauvery and containing a temple of celebrity within its precincts, fell after a siege of five



days. The views of the Codugu chieftain expanding as his prospects brightened, immediately on the occupation of this place, he ordered a body of his adherents below the ghauts, when possessing himself of some districts in the vicinity of Mangalore, he took measures for securing and enlarging those new conquests. But operations were not confined to those parts. Munzerabad, a province on the northern frontier, was occupied, and the campaign country on the eastern borders, ravaged without resistance, or mercy.

1790. About this period the first connection between the English and Codugus took place: desirous of conciliating so able a partizan, the President at Tellicherry invited Veerajender to a conference. The approaching Mysore war rendered the friendship of this chief, as commanding so important a barrier, particularly momentous, and subsequent transactions proved how much it promoted the success of the campaign; where the views of both parties were so similar, but little discussion was required as to preliminaries. A treaty was immediately concluded, in which mutual assistance was the leading stipulation.

First connection  
of the Codugus  
with the British.

Animated by such rapid and important successes, Veerajender at last beheld the consoling prospect of the entire expulsion of the enemy. Tippoo's possessions in Codugu were now confined within the narrow limits of Muddukayray, of which (aware that his last post must fall if not immediately succored, and unwilling to lose what had cost him so much to acquire) he once more attempted the relief. The convoy destined for this purpose had reached Mooloosogy, when Veerajender, whose gallantry was only equalled by his perseverance, attacked, and after a severe conflict in which 300 of the enemy were killed, obliged it to retire to a small eminence, where surrounded, the Codugus only waited the signal to destroy it. Kaudur Khan the commander of this detachment had rendered some services to the Rajah, who though resolved the convoy should not escape with impunity, with generous acknowledgment, expressed a desire to release him from the dangers

Captures a convoy  
intended to relieve  
Muddukayray, generous  
conduct to the  
officer Commanding  
it.

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by which he was encompassed. The Muslem officer, however grateful for this proffered favor,\* represented that the acceptance of it would draw on himself and family the severest vengeance of his master, and added that the strict execution of his commission was the only means of averting inevitable ruin. Veerajender in compliance with the dictates of chivalry rather than the laws of war, to evince his sense of obligation in the true spirit of an ancient knight, permitted him entirely to accomplish his object; anxious to obviate the suspicion to which this transaction might give rise, he explained his motives, and General Abercromby equally assured of his sincerity, as struck with his romantic generosity, offered to assist him in recovering his capital. But in a strain beyond the temper of the times, he expressed a determination to recover his ancient possessions, entirely by the aid of his own adherents; a gallant resolution that was soon rewarded by the fall of Muddukayray; and on its surrender in the same spirit, he liberally supplied the wants of the captured garrison, and permitted them to withdraw in safety. Those conquests however, did not bring with them a state of repose; though now for the first time undisturbed master of his ancient patrimony, the repeated devastations of which it had been the theatre, left it little more than a vast wild, and not perhaps wholly uninfluenced by the allurements of rapine, he determined on retaliating the injuries he had so long experienced.

Determines to  
rely only on the Co-  
dugus in gaining  
possession of his  
country.

Takes Muddukay-  
ray.

1791.

The fertile plains, that spread themselves to the eastward of this woody tract felt all the calamities of his hostile ravages, and the rural spoil of 1,500 head of cattle evinced the success with which he recruited his resources.

Plunders the  
districts of Mysore  
in his vicinity.

The British ad-  
vance against Se-  
ringapatam.

The period had now approached when the Sultan was to oppose the most formidable combination he had yet encountered, and the capture of Bangalore gave early earnest of success. Lord Cornwallis advanced towards the capital and General Abercromby

\* Deroin. Mackenzie. Wars in Mysore.

in command of the Bombay Army had ascended the Heggulla ghaut for the purpose of supporting him. Operations had commenced with every prospect of an immediate and happy termination, when the premature severity of the season precluding any further prosecution of them, obliged both armies to fall back, nor was the retreat unattended with considerable loss. Though suspended, the storm which threatened the Sultan was not averted; aware of the great advantages that would attend the friendship of the Codugu chief at this juncture, resentment giving way to interest, he for the first time sought an alliance with him, offering as the price of his co-operation to cede the four districts on his eastern frontier, and to enlarge his western boundary by the addition of certain provinces dependant on Cannanore. However, alluring the offer Veerajender pursued not the Asiatic

Tippoo seeks an alliance with Veerajender. policy that awaits with doubtful or venal faith the event of war, but adhering with fidelity to his previous engagements, declined all connections with Tippoo, observing in answer to his proposals, that he reposed no confidence in the faith or friendship of one, who so often proved he was little influenced by either.

December, 1791. The season having now opened, General Abercromby again ascended the ghauts, and moved towards Seringapatam, before which the confederates had previously taken up a position. The success of the first operations, having driven the Mysore troops, to seek shelter under the walls of that fortification, about 5000 Codugus together with their families,\* whom the barbarous policy and ferocious zeal of the Sultan had dragged from their homes and circumcised, escaping in the confusion that ensued, sought the protection of their prince. Better adapted to the active warfare of the partizan, than the tedious operation of a seige, Veerajender directed his first efforts to intercept a valuable convoy proceeding from Nugur. This service was effected with his usual address, and a warrant to plunder the neighbouring country, coming within the limits of his commission, he gave a wide license to the predatory

Intercepts a valuable convoy and ravages the neighbouring districts.

\* In all amounting to 12000 so says the Historian.

habits of his followers. The seige now formed was indefatigably pressed, and Tippoo, after a rapid succession of vicissitudes, saw the only barrier that delayed the conquest of his kingdom on the point

Siege of Seringapatam by the British. of being subverted; the dangers by which he was menaced inclined his fierce spirit to avert them by pacific overtures, and after some negotiations, in which he exhibited the usual faithlessness and insincerity of his character, expiated the guilt of the war by the cession of half his territory.

Hostilities cease. The Codugu chief would not appear to have been at first included in the articles of this treaty; the oversight, however, was immediately remedied, and the English commander determined on securing so faithful an ally from the violence of his still powerful neighbour, insisted on his becoming a party in it. Viewing this prince as a chief instrument of the war, to the ordinary motives of hostility were added a personal animosity, and influenced at once by measures of policy and private resentment, from the character of the Sultan it may be concluded he meditated a signal vengeance. The demand it is stated\* was received with "astonishment and disdain, but Lord Cornwallis was determined not to sacrifice an ally whose cause could not be relinquished with justice or honor. Tippoo on learning this resolution is represented as irritated to a state of phrenzy, and refusing again to enter on the subject." However averse he may have been to

any arrangement that placed the rajah beyond his power, the alternative of compliance, or immediate renewal of hostilities, forced an unwilling assent to the demand, and admitting the stipulations which guaranteed the independance of the principality, he transferred to the British his claims of allegiance and tribute from it.

Veerajender included in the treaty March, 1792. Transfers his allegiance to the English. Having passed through the vicissitudes of such turbulent times, Veerajender hoped now to enjoy a period of undisturbed repose, but the new made amity between the Sultan and his highland neighbour, did not hold out the promise of long continuance. Tippoo required the restitution of Punjee and Bullaree, which however obscure and undefined his right may have been, were given up; this concess-

\* Dirom.



Tippoo demands and obtains Poojee and Bullawee. sign had only the effect of stimulating him to more extravagant claims; scarcely had he occupied the above districts, when he urged his pretensions to the adjoining ones of Umr, and Sooleeay, a demand equally unreasonable to be made as submitted to; this tract of country had long been in possession of the Codugu families, but Tippoo uninfluenced by moderation or justice, enforced his claims by the licentious violence of conquest. The powerful interposition of the British seems, however, to have taught him a lesson of moderation, if not repentance, as we find him hastily withdrawing his troops and submitting to its decision; the investigation that followed fully established the right of the Codugus to the districts in dispute. Nothing could divert the rancorous enmity which the Sultan bore, a chief who had so long alarmed his fears, and excited his revenge: he resolved on his destruction, and in the attainment of this end hesitated not to

Attempts to assassinate Veerajender.

aggravate guilt by baseness. Some circumstance not mentioned, frustrated the original plan, but little controlled by feelings of compunction, he took measures more effectually to accomplish his design; the Sivaratree feast was fixed on as the period, and the accidental discovery of the conspiracy by a boy, alone prevented its execution; the assassins were immediately seized, and it being considered desirable to retain them as living witnesses of the Sultan's intentions, they escaped with the loss of a leg each; the barbarous prudence of Veerajender appears to have dictated the amputation, as the means of more completely securing them. With the exception of the events that have just been related, nothing of moment occurred during the interval between the peace of Seringapatam in 1792, and commencement of hostilities in 1799, when Veerajender roused from his tranquility prepared for more active scenes.

1799.

Tippoo threatens a rupture with the British.

Tippoo, whom no convention could bind, or any ties of faith or morality control, was preparing amidst the most amicable professions, to violate those treaties which he pretended so much to respect. The British apprised of the offensive alliance which he had entered into with the French, adopted the means of early crushing so formidable a confederacy; actuated by

the same resentment the chief of Codugu hastened to their standard, and in all the warmth of sincerity declared his "exertions should be increased ten-fold." A depôt was immediately formed at Veerajenderpett; and measures taken to bring forward the whole resources of his little state. In conformity to the Military preparations that were determined on, General Stewart at the head of the Bombay army ascended the Heggulla Ghaut, and experienced the most prompt and effectual assistance, an aid the more grateful, as proving the

20th February, 1799. fidelity of the Prince. His first exploit was in saving a large portion of the baggage which had been seized by a body of Maupeeays at the foot of the pass; while ever ready to repel an attack, he kept at bay the Nairs of Wynaad, who instigated by Tippoo and excited by the prospect of plunder, issuing from their woods, threatened an eruption. The Sultan beheld and opposed with spirit the storm that threatened him; hostilities were commenced by

8th March, 1799. a desperate and well directed attack on the advanced post of Seedasweer. It will not be necessary to repeat the details of this decisive and brilliant action, his troops fought with great intrepidity, but after a severe conflict were completely routed many men of the first distinction fell on this occasion amongst them Mahomed Ruzza (The Benki Nabob) remarkable for his daring courage and remorseless character. Veerajender took a personal share in this engagement and has recorded his admiration\* of the gallantry that won it. His active courage did not long want an opportunity of emulating such conduct. The populous and rich districts that stretch from the foot of the ghauts towards the western coast first invited his hostilities. Buntwalla an opulent mercantile town in the vicinity of Mangalore was after some resistance taken and plundered, the officer in command of the province at the head of 3000 men completely defeated, and a large portion of

\* Vide Asiatic Register. A curious letter from the late Rajah to Lord Wellesley, giving an account of this action, he declares the battle of the Mahabarut is thrown quite into shade by it.

Indulges his followers in extensive scenes of plunder. this part of Canara entirely cleared of the enemy. His efforts in Mysore were not less vigorous, or less successful; Buswampatam, Arculcode, together with various towns of secondary consideration were captured, and those mountaineers whose courage is not untinged by ferocity are represented as indulging themselves in the full gratification of every military appetite.

Capture of Seringapatam and death of the Sultan. The genius of Tippoo was unable to sustain the empire his father had created; but if not possessing the prudence, ability, or military talent of that singular character, he merits at least the praise of a fearless soldier. Though unable to resist he could not submit, and after the action of Seedasweer, retired within his fortifications with a determination of defending them to the last, a resolution executed with a steady and active perseverance; the infatuated gallantry with which he fought could however, only postpone the vengeance he had so justly provoked. The judicious policy that foresaw and opposed his designs was attended with the most complete success, and the capture of Seringapatam taken after a contest of sanguinary obstinacy for ever put a period to the Mussulman dynasty in Mysore. The British who

May, 1799. had chiefly urged the rapid downfall of it, hastened to close the calamities of war, and actuated by the love of justice not ambitious of conquest, placed the representation of the ancient Hindoo Princes on that throne which their arms had won. Restored to peace by the events of this brilliant campaign, Veerajender again sought tranquility amidst his native hills and faithful adherents. The English Government were not unmindful of what was due to the attachment and zeal with which this chief adhered to their cause and promoted its success; an exemption from all tribute, and the entire cession of the rich district of Poottoor, an addition of territory and revenue that placed him in the rank of the most powerful of his predecessors, evinced the

Veerajender experiences substantial proofs of the gratitude of the British. sincerity of its gratitude, but a splendid sword that accompanied this substantial indication of it, seems to have called forth his warmest acknowledgments. This testimony of their friendship

so suited to his desires and wishes was received in state, repeated discharges of ordnance, and a donative profusely scattered amongst his people manifested the sentiments with which he accepted a gift that realized as he said, "the first wish of his heart" and in proof of the value attached to it, he declared "it should be considered one of the ensigns of his authority, and as such transmitted to his successors."

The events that followed this long register of contests do not offer much worthy of record. Veerajender seems to have enjoyed for some time the ease which his efforts so mainly contributed to acquire, and his ancient possessions gradually recovering from the devastation to which they had been subject, promised to repay the exertions he used in improving them; but domestic ills and private discord obscured this flattering prospect, and his latter years were clouded by misfortunes entirely destructive of his repose. The premature death of his ranee was the first shock he experienced; tenderly attached to her, the loss seems to have seriously affected his temper, if not impaired his

His domestic misfortunes.

intellects, nor was the conduct of his elder brother likely to tranquilize him. Appajee Saib aggravated the guilt of crime by the baseness of ingratitude; he was impatient of control, of a violent and cruel disposition, and returned the affection of Veerajender by endeavours to destroy him. The particular circumstances that led him to attempt his assassination are not known, the plan laid, however, for that purpose was accidentally frustrated, and the head of Appajee Saib displayed in the palace, proved his brother was more influenced by the dictates of severe justice than ties of consanguinity. Subsequent to this event some of his principal servants urged by the forcible impulse of hope and fear determined to remove a master, whose suspicion the most cautious

1804.

could not escape, whose violence no submission could appease. The Dewan and Soobadar of Veerajenderpett, the one a Brahmin, the other a Eunuch (characters well adapted to such scenes,) were the chief instigators of the plot. On its success the son of the former was to have been placed in power, and more effectually to secure him in it, it was determined he should be united to one of the daughters of the Chief. The design was defeated, although not till it had been nearly carried into

Conspiracy of his minister.

execution; on such an occasion but little clemency was to be expected and the conspirators, together with their unoffending families were put to death with circumstances of singular atrocity. Those sacrifices to resentment or justice rendered him still more irritable, the slightest motives of caprice or passion, the most casual provocation often involved numbers in indiscriminate slaughter.\* Those

Punishment of those concerned in it.

sallies of rage were doubtless the efforts of a disordered imagination, they were succeeded by imaginary terrors and his dejection rapidly increasing, he attempted to put a period to an existence that became burthensome. The power of medicine rescued him from death, but wearied with authority or satiated with success, though consenting to live, he aspired only to descend from the irksome elevation in which he was placed, and has more than once expressed

His alienation of mind and death.

a determination to retire from his native possessions, and live under the protection of the British; he continued in this alienated state of mind for a considerable time when alike fortunate for him as his subjects he was removed from a scene in which, while he lived, either had so little enjoyment.

1809.

The fidelity and constancy of those mountaineers, and the personal qualities, confinement and escape of their chief, give a romantic air to the adventures that may excuse, if not excite a share in the interest that has dictated this sketch of their history; more virtues belong to the character

Character of Veerajender.

of Veerajender, than are easily reconcilable with the ferocity that marked many of his acts, free, open, liberal to munificence, and of incorruptible faith, he joined to a daring spirit an acute capacity; and of a mature judgment, the adversity of his early years dispelled those prejudices of caste, religion, and education that enslave the mind of the Hindoo, and fitted him for the times in which he lived, a period well calculated for the display of his natural intrepidity. He professed on every

\* One of the members of a large number of Abyssinian slaves kept for convenience or ostentation, having committed some venial crime involved the whole body in his punishment, the resentment of their master could only be appeased, immediate massacre of all in which he himself took an active part.

occasion the warmest fidelity to the English nation, and his conduct

justified the sincerity of the sentiment, his attachment to the British. His singular attachment to the British. ment to it was shewn in every occurrence of his public and private life, and he declared that the

extent of his ambition "was to be considered a dutiful child, and devoted adherent of the British." But however, much we may see to admire, candour requires some shading; he appears to have merited the confidence of his allies, more than the love of his subjects, and though his gallantry as a soldier may win our esteem, his vices as a ruler must meet our condemnation. He is represented as by no means unmindful of the welfare of his people, but if we except his merits as a leader, he possessed few of those virtues calculated to fix their affection; he was little controlled by

Deserves more the esteem, of his allies, than love of his subjects. pity or remorse in gratifying momentary freaks of passion, his paroxysms of rage were often fatal

to those who approached his person and frequently produced scenes not exceeded in all the records of barbarism.

Veerajender's achievements in the genealogi-

His family.

cal tree of the family were conspicuous; his first wife, however, only produced one child, a daughter, subsequently given in marriage to the Ex-rajah of Soanda. By a second and a favorite ranee he had four daughters, leaving also an extended progeny of spurious birth, but the disappointment he experienced in not having a legitimate son sensibly affected him. Viewing the occupation of his country in the light of a conquest, and the laws of the Hindoos, considering that which has been acquired as disposable at the pleasure of the possessor, he conceived himself privileged to confer it as best suited his desires; but he never for a

Anxiety as to the succession. moment contemplated the succession of his brother, and had he anticipated the present order of things, would doubtless have followed the Turkish policy, one so well adapted to reduce the number of royal competitors. Having won his ancient possessions he evinced no ordinary solicitude that his immediate descendants should enjoy them, and to secure this object at first determined, that in the event of having no male heir, the most deserving of his illegitimate sons should be seated on the mus-

nud. Subsequent circumstances led him to alter this resolution, and he finally willed that the son of his eldest daughter,\* and in failure

His determination of male issue that of the others, agreeable to regarding it. niority; should adopt his name and succeed him; in the event of his daughters having no male heirs, the original intention was to be carried into effect. The British government sanctioned this arrangement, and to it he entrusted the guardianship of his family, and execution of his will; he provided for the government of the country by nominating under the control of (or rather assisted by) the Ex-raja of Soanda, his eldest daughter as regent during the minority of the expected heir.

Linga Rajah the younger brother of Veerajender owed his safety to the extreme contempt in which he was held by that Prince and his rise to the domestic feuds that followed his decease. On it the young ranee and her guardian assumed the direction of affairs, but their power was of very limited duration. Linga Rajah now freed from the rigorous restraint in which he had been kept, emerging from obscurity hastened to Muddukayray, and inflamed the discord that already existed between his niece and her associate in authority; this was only the prelude to more important events; having acquired a strong party, he completely supplanted the Rajah of Soanda and compelled him to withdraw; the influence which he had by this time gained over the young ranee seems to have been considerable, as she consented to abdicate in his favor, and obtained the sanction of the British Government, to an arrangement that invalidated the will of the late chief. I am not acquainted with the particulars of the revolution that raised the present prince to power. The above is a mere outline of the events that led to it. The young Ranee together with her sisters, now kept in a degree of restraint, which has everything of confinement but the name will doubtless have leisure to regret the weakness that resigned her authority to a relative that has but slender claims to such a preference—capricious and puerile, but jealous and relentless he might inspire the contempt did he not excite the fear of his subjects. Of his domestic government a sketch has been given; the attributes of his character

\* She was to have been married to a member of the Bednore family.

and restless suspicion for which he is remarkable suggests, if not confirms the belief, that his administration is not of a mild or considerate character. It would not appear that his reign had hitherto been disturbed by intestine factions, but the fear and jealousy with which he regards those around him, allow us to conclude he has purchased his elevation at the expense of his tranquility. The annals of Codugu as far as they relate to the neighbouring countries,

Latter end 1809.\* afford since his accession, nothing of sufficient interest to arrest attention.

QUILON,  
31st January,  
1818.

(Signed) P. E. CONNOR, LIEUT.  
Surveyor in Coorg.

FINIS.

\* The chronological part of the History is very scanty, but there is reason to believe few dates given are correct.